

- HERGÉ -
★
THE ADVENTURES OF
TINTIN

THE BLUE LOTUS



MAGNET

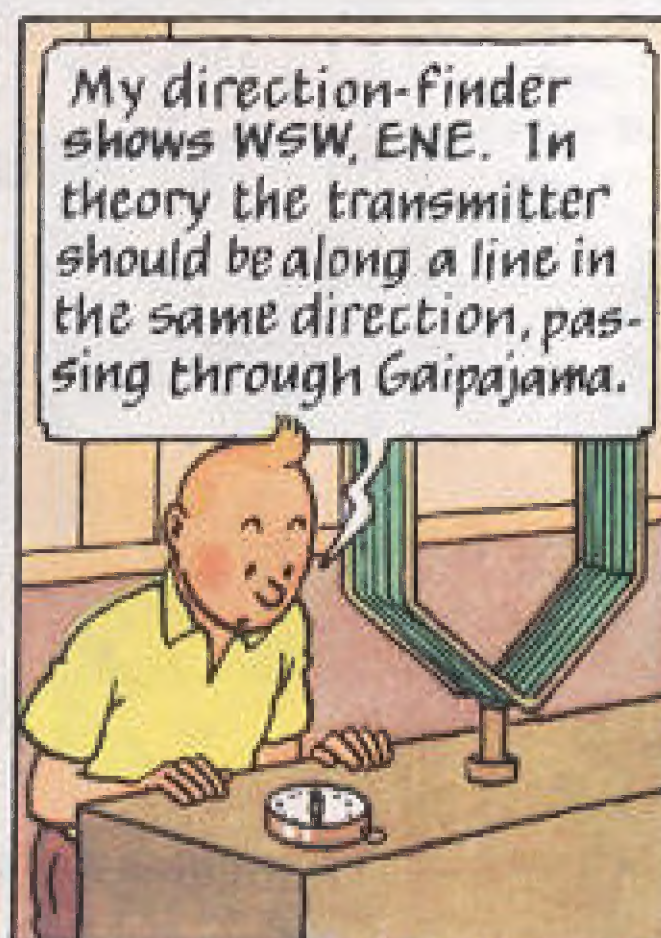
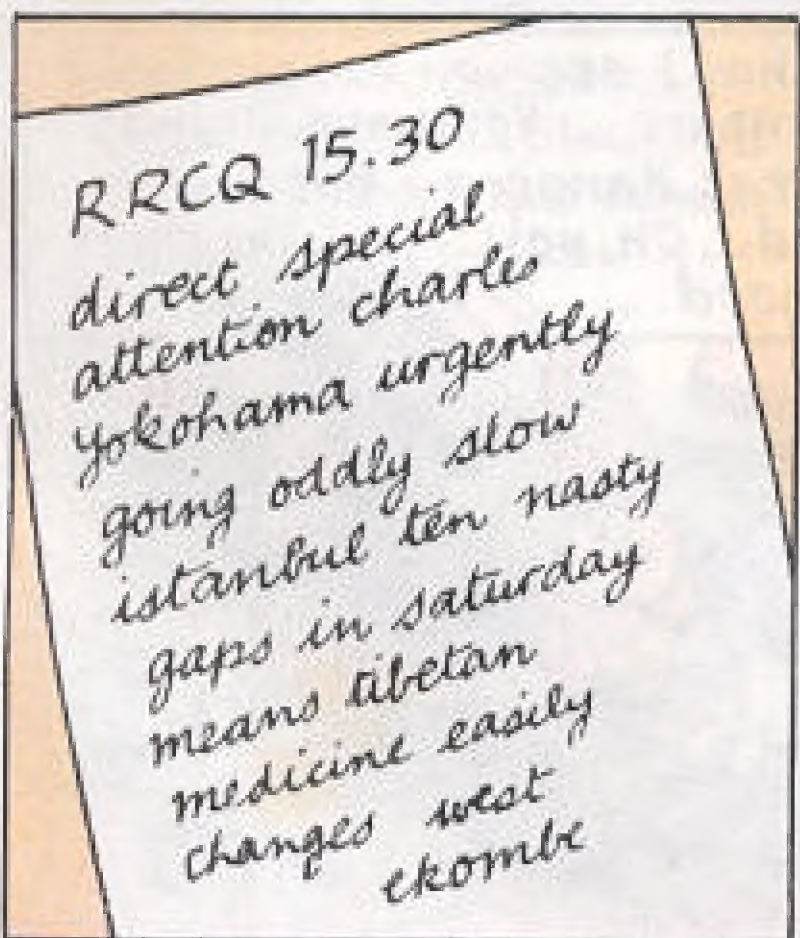
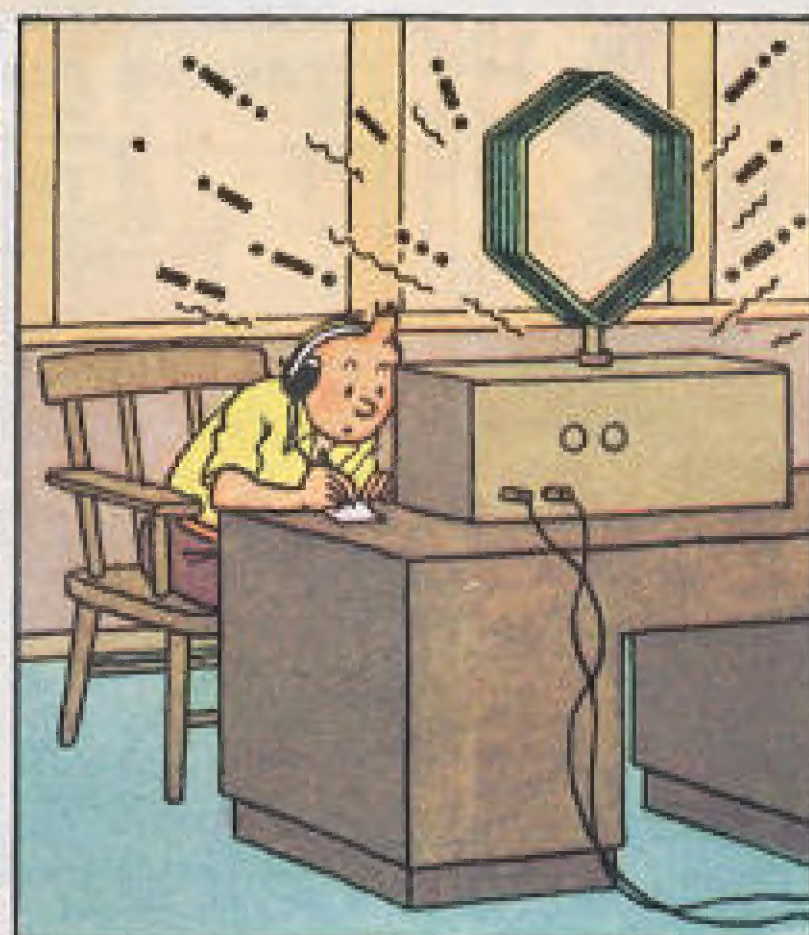
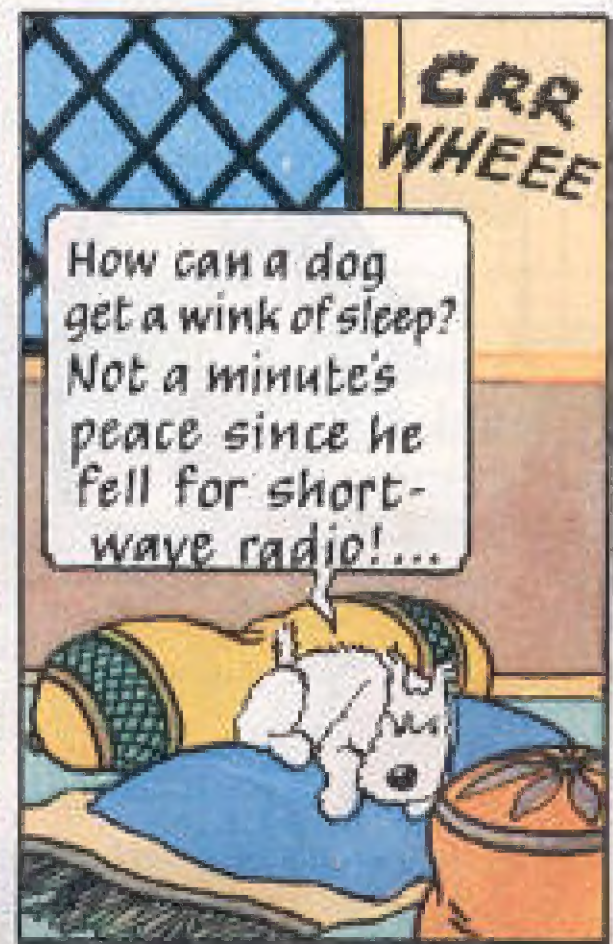
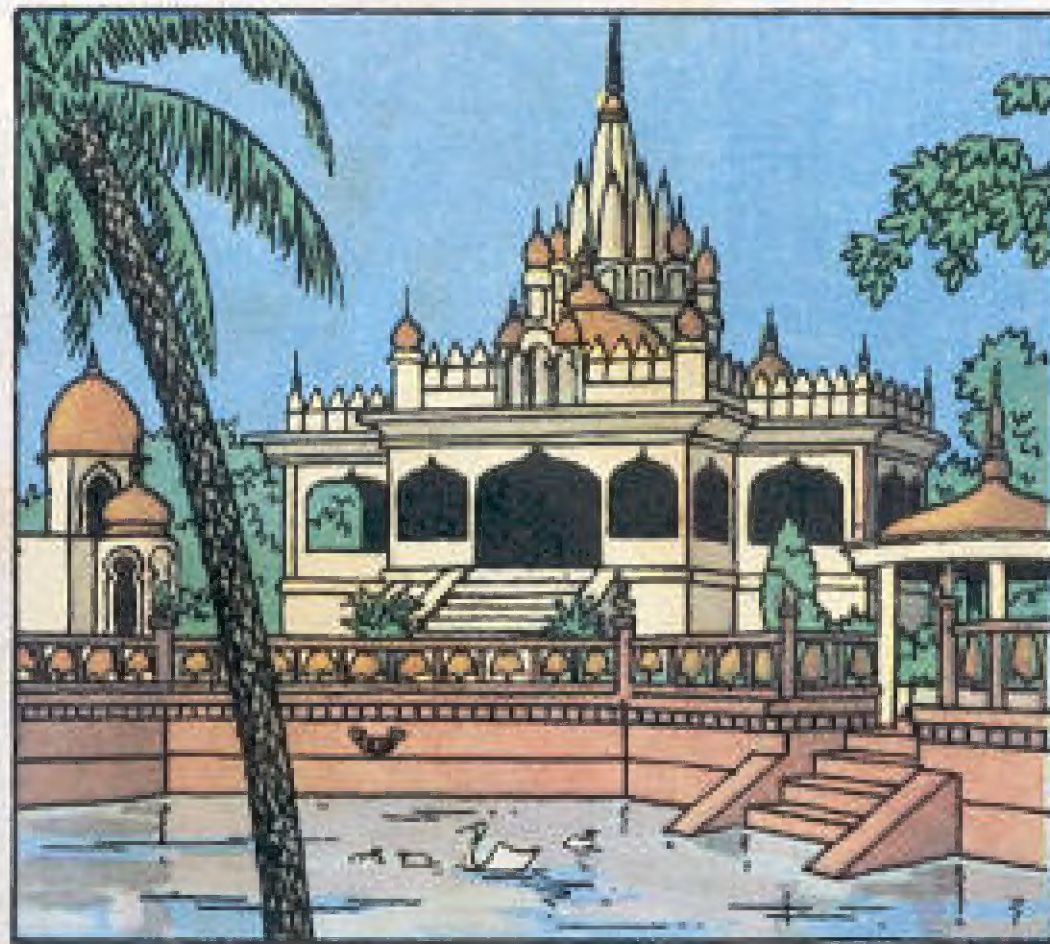
THE BLUE LOTUS

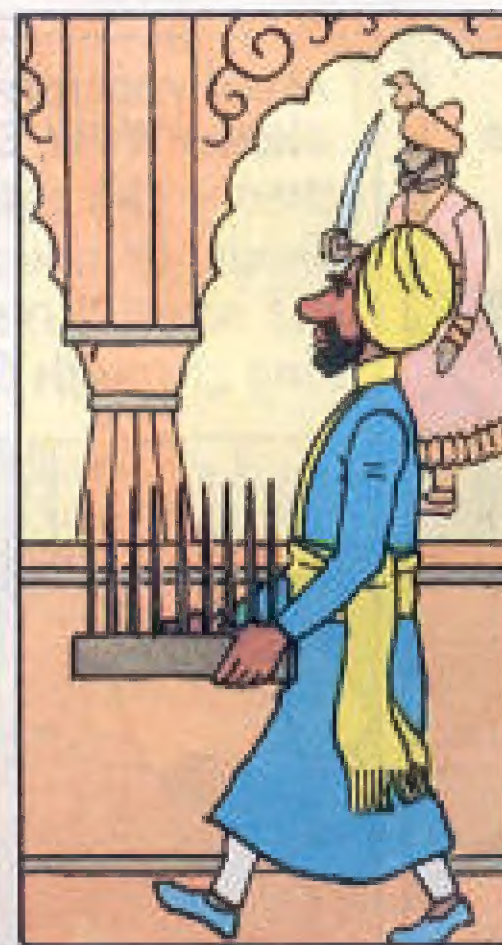
藍蓮花

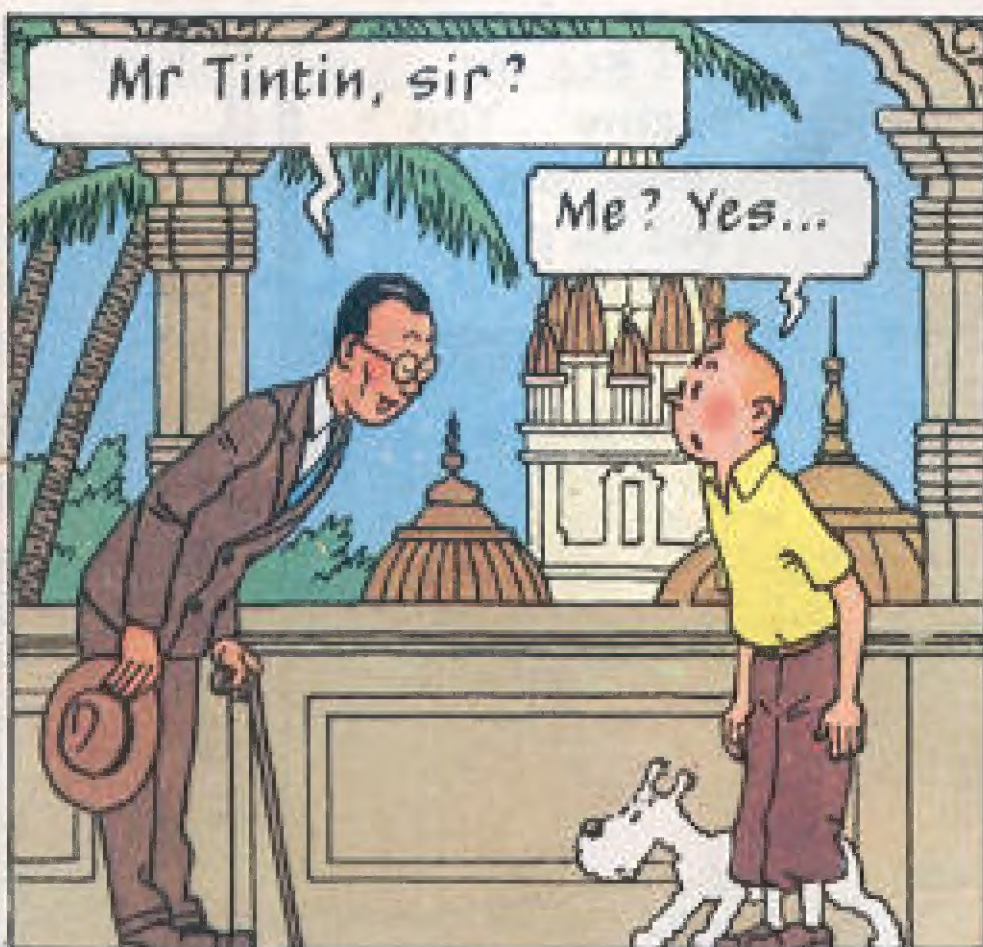
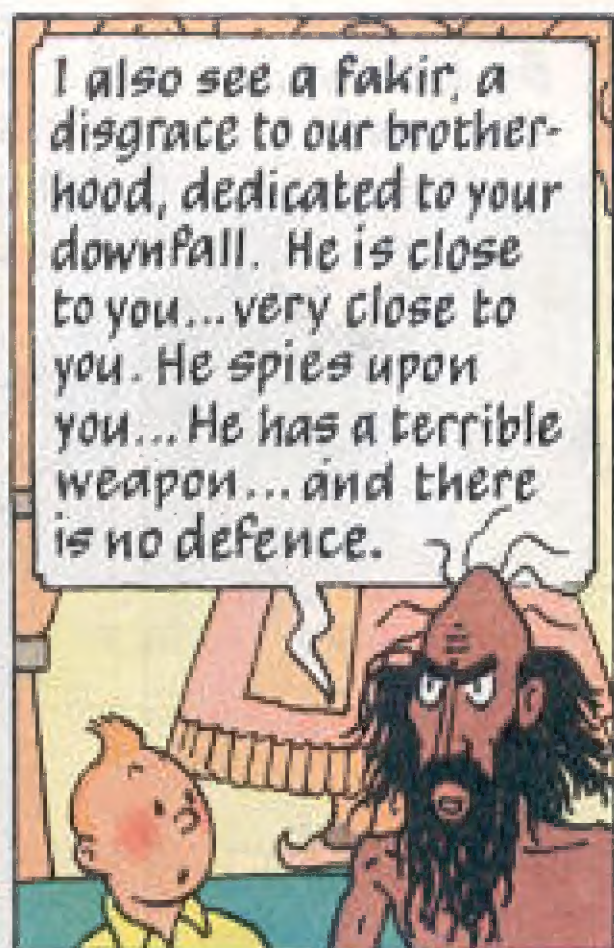
TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug-smugglers, encountered in *Cigars of the Pharaoh*, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader is

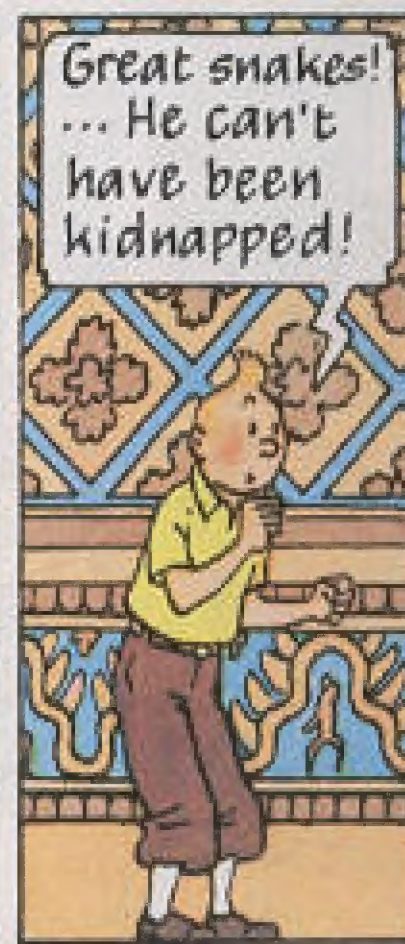
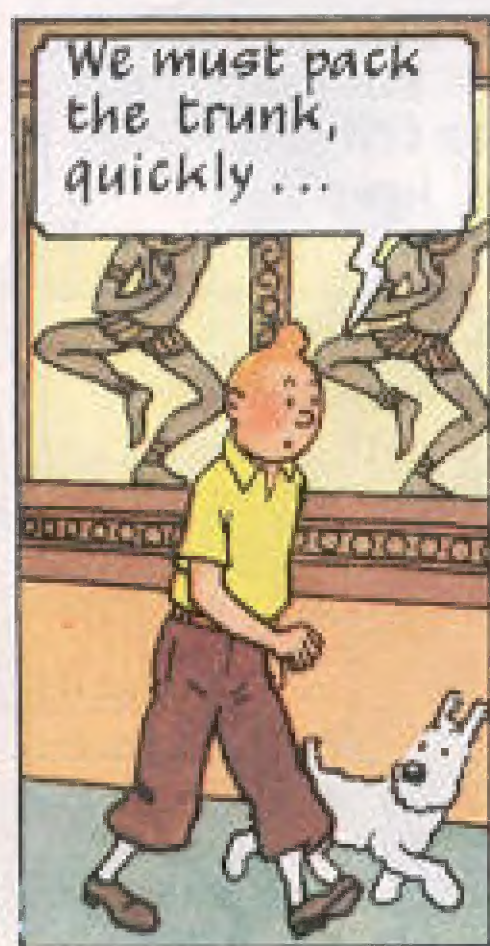
unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

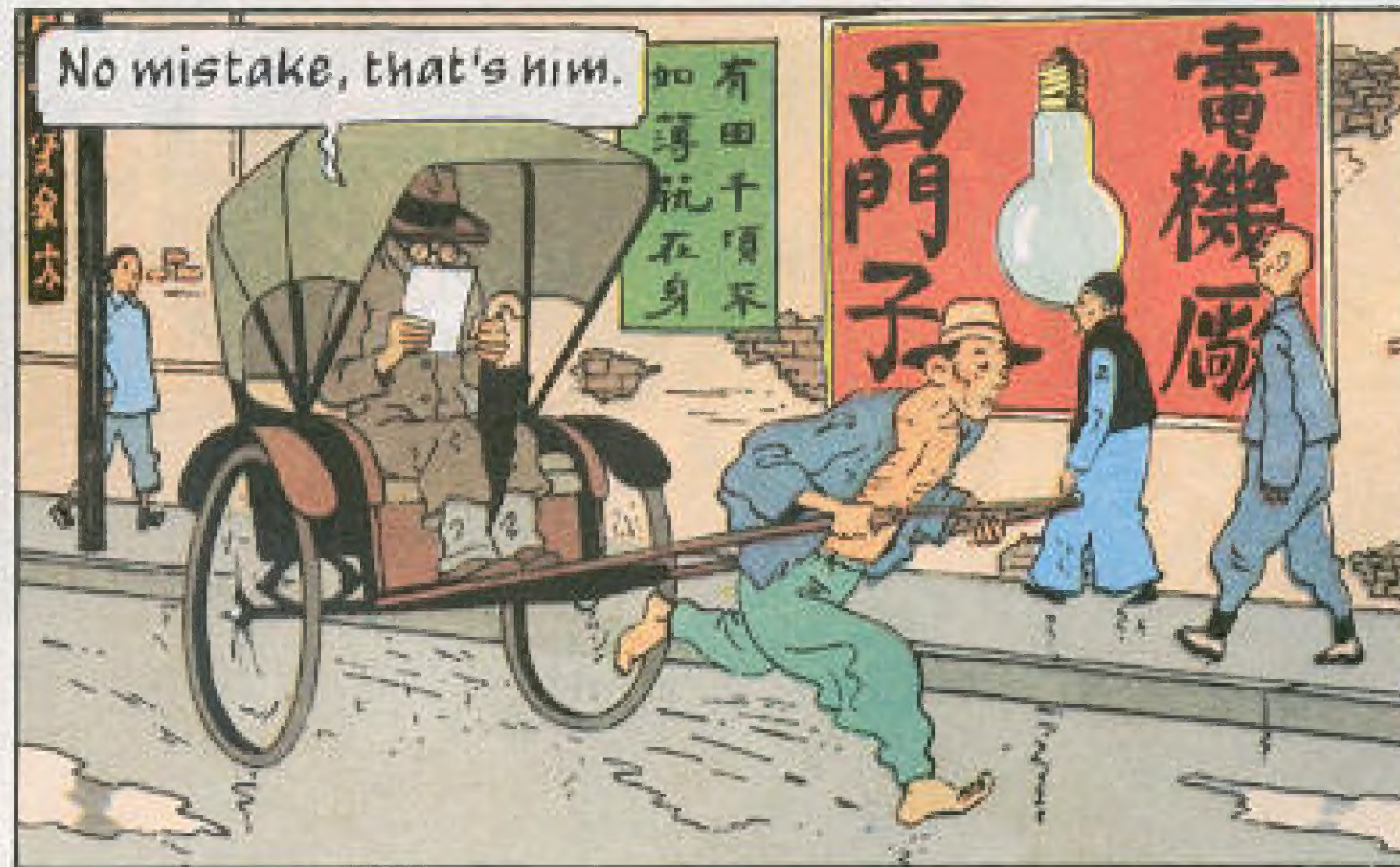
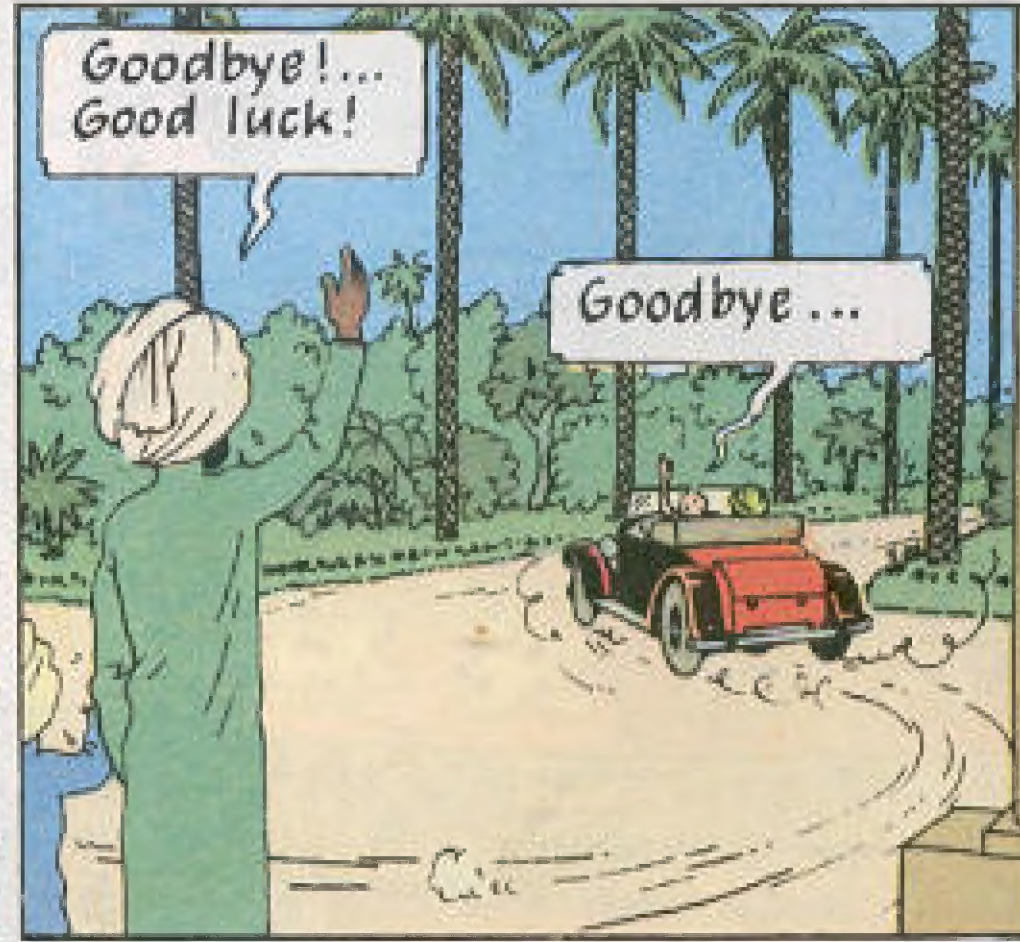
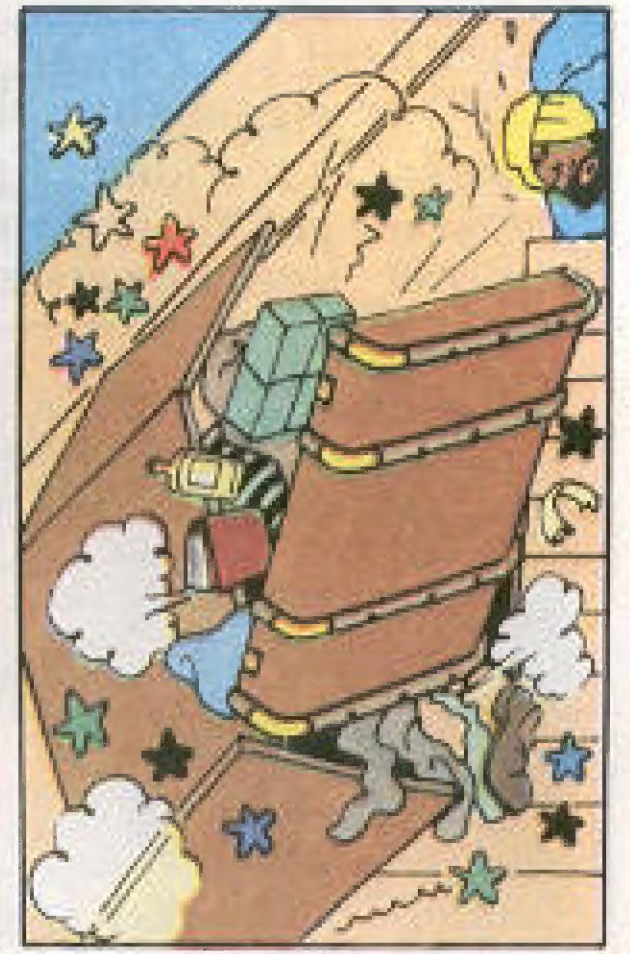
But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajaijah juice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?

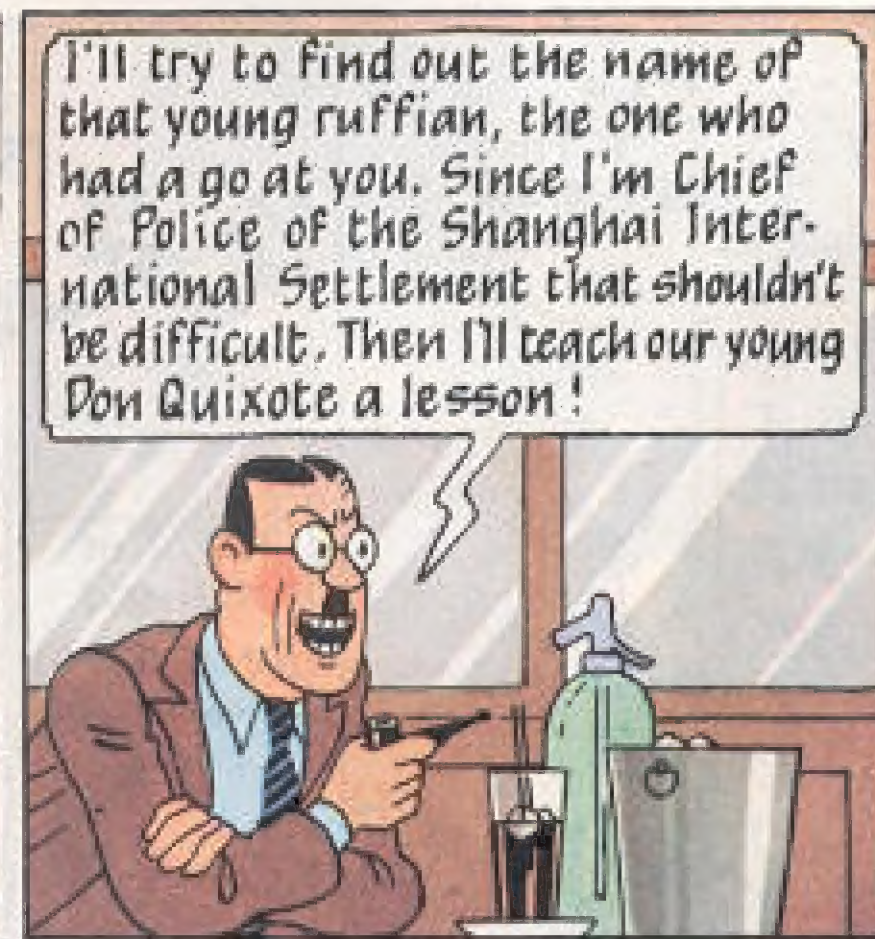
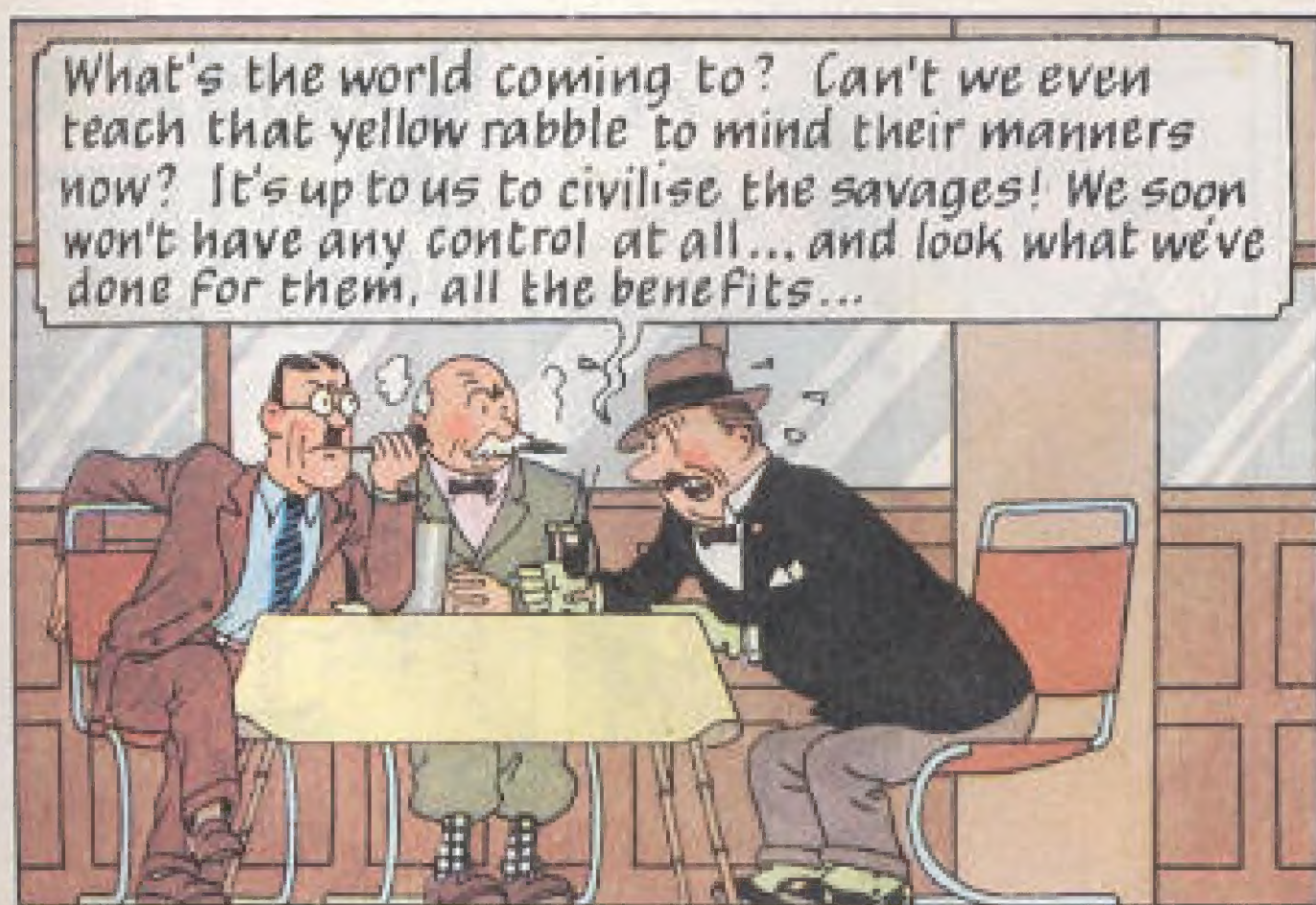
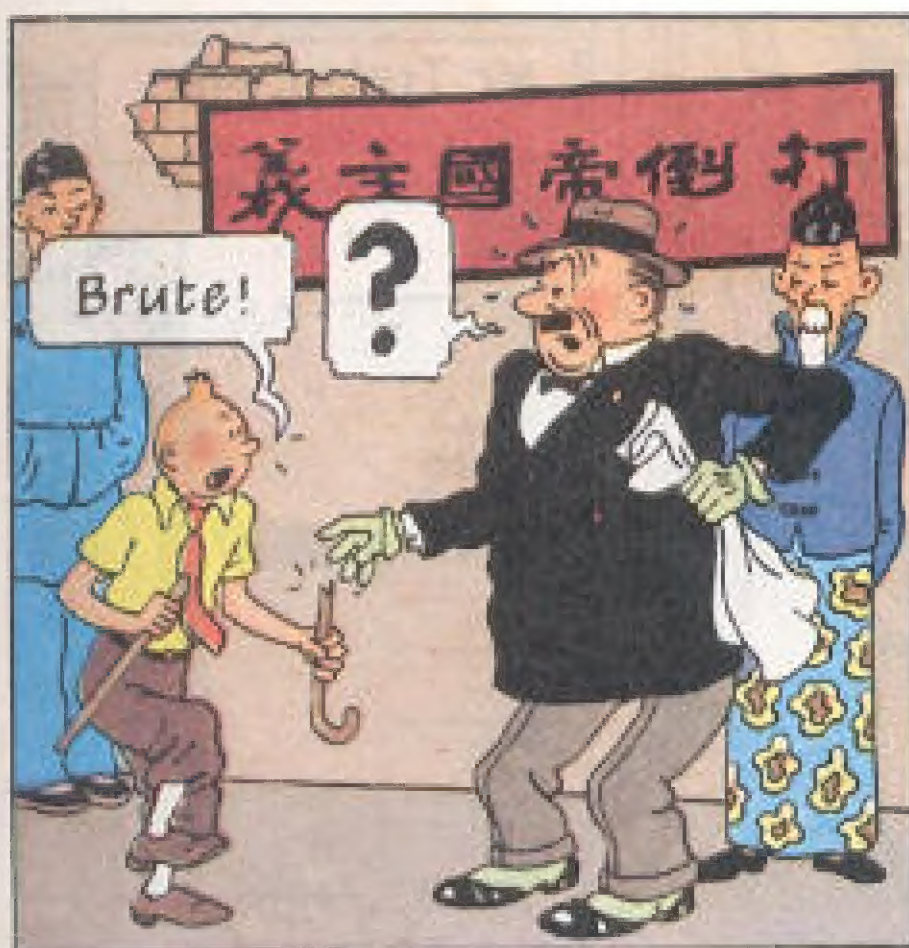


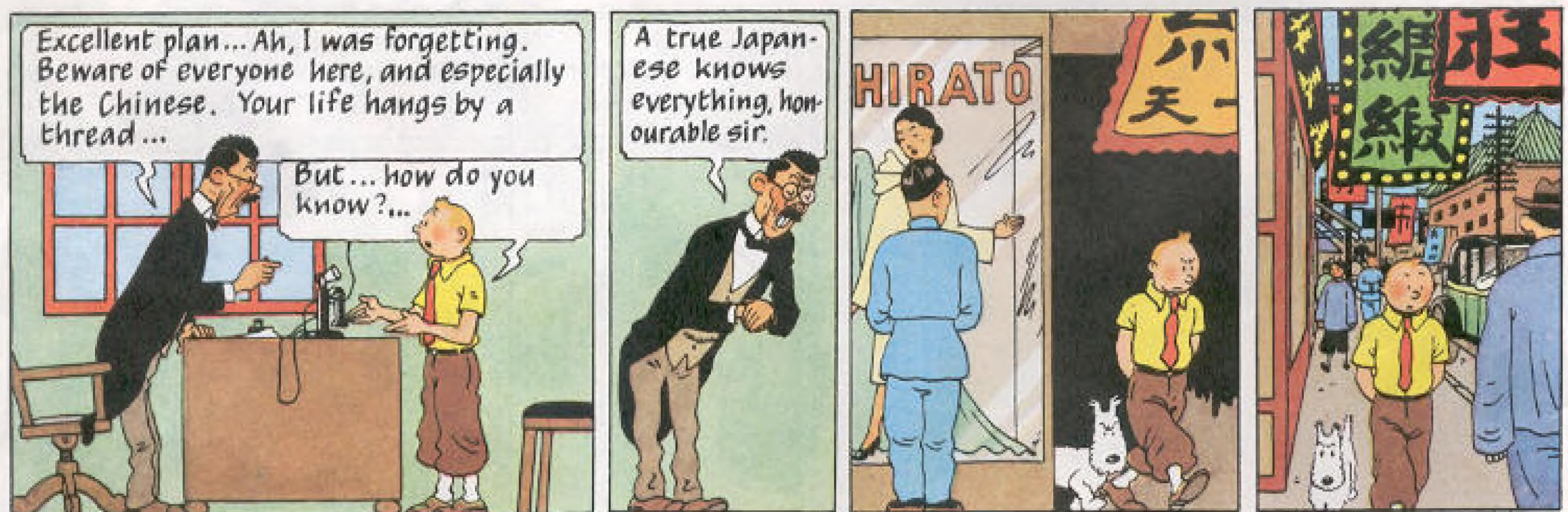


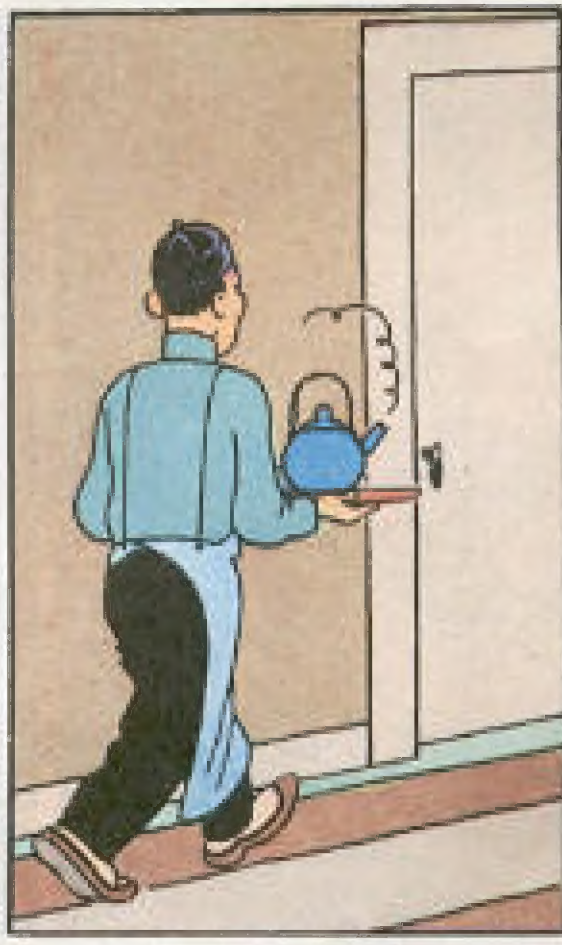
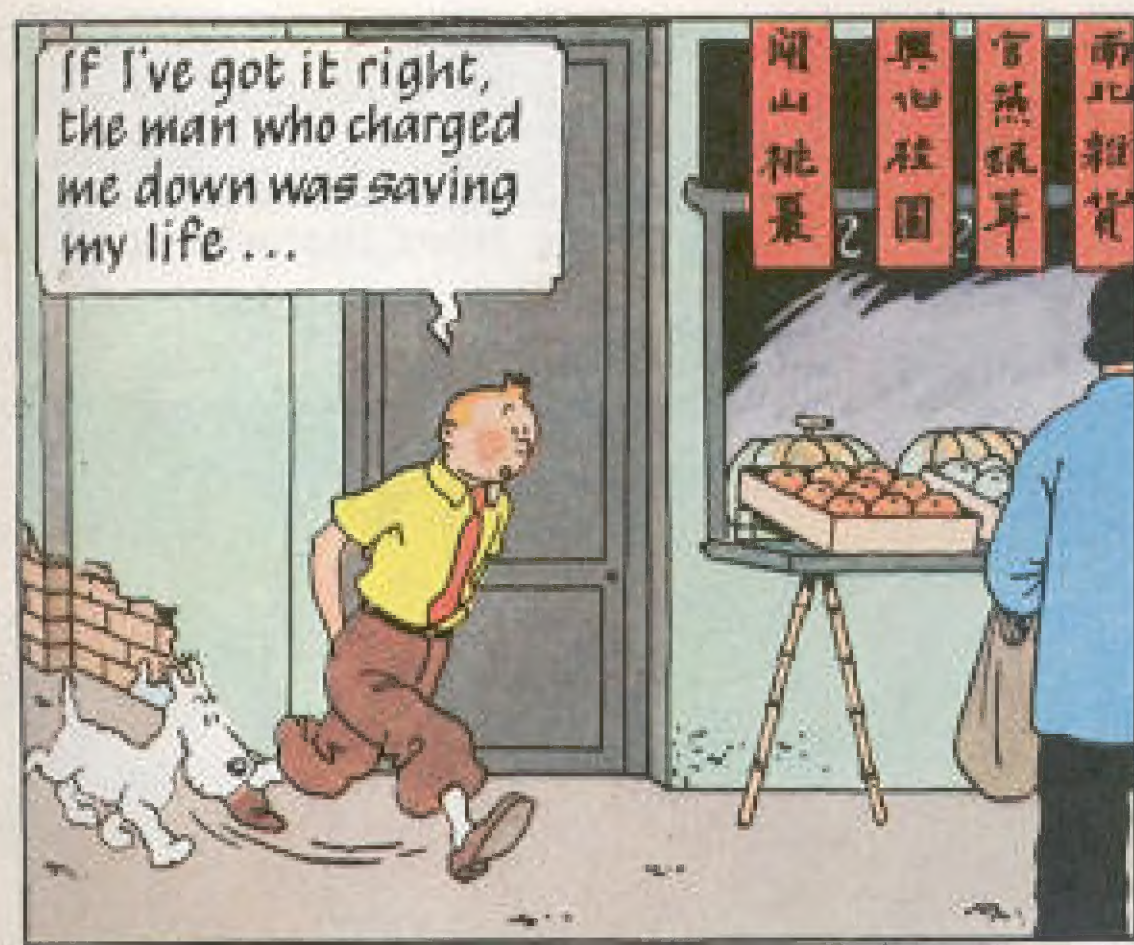
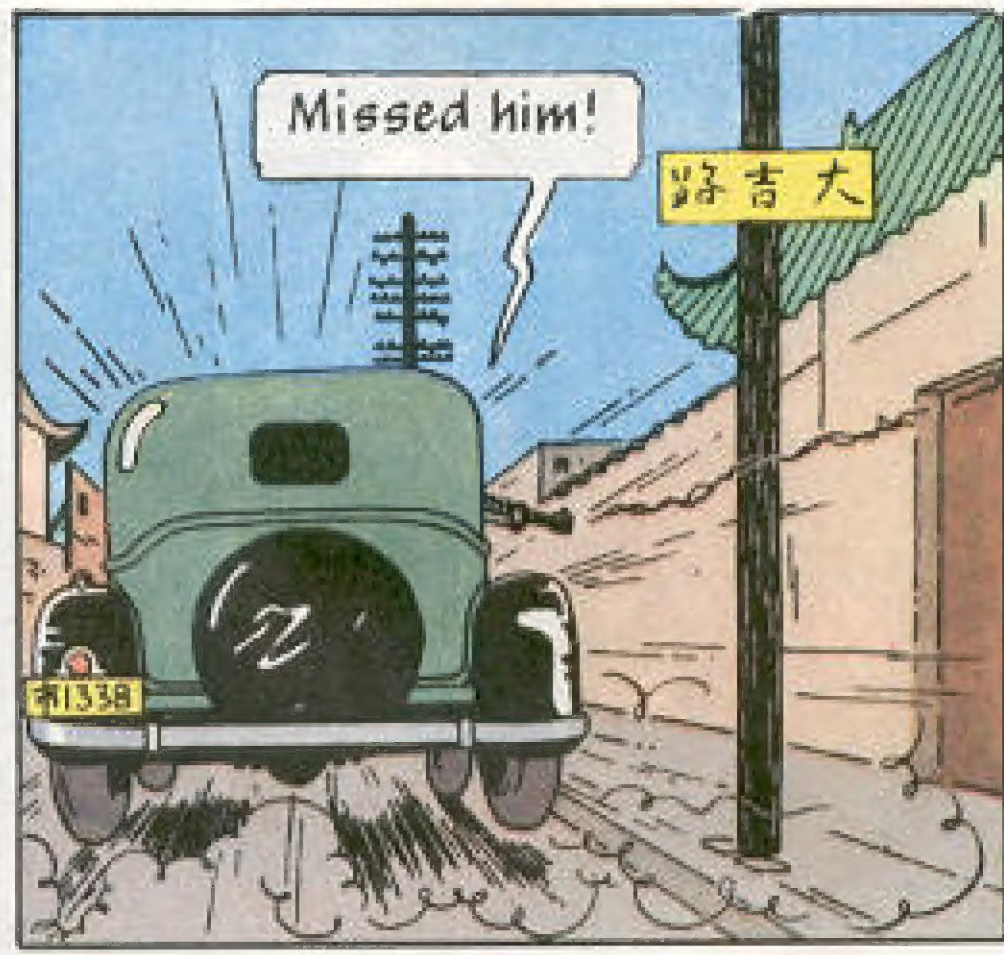
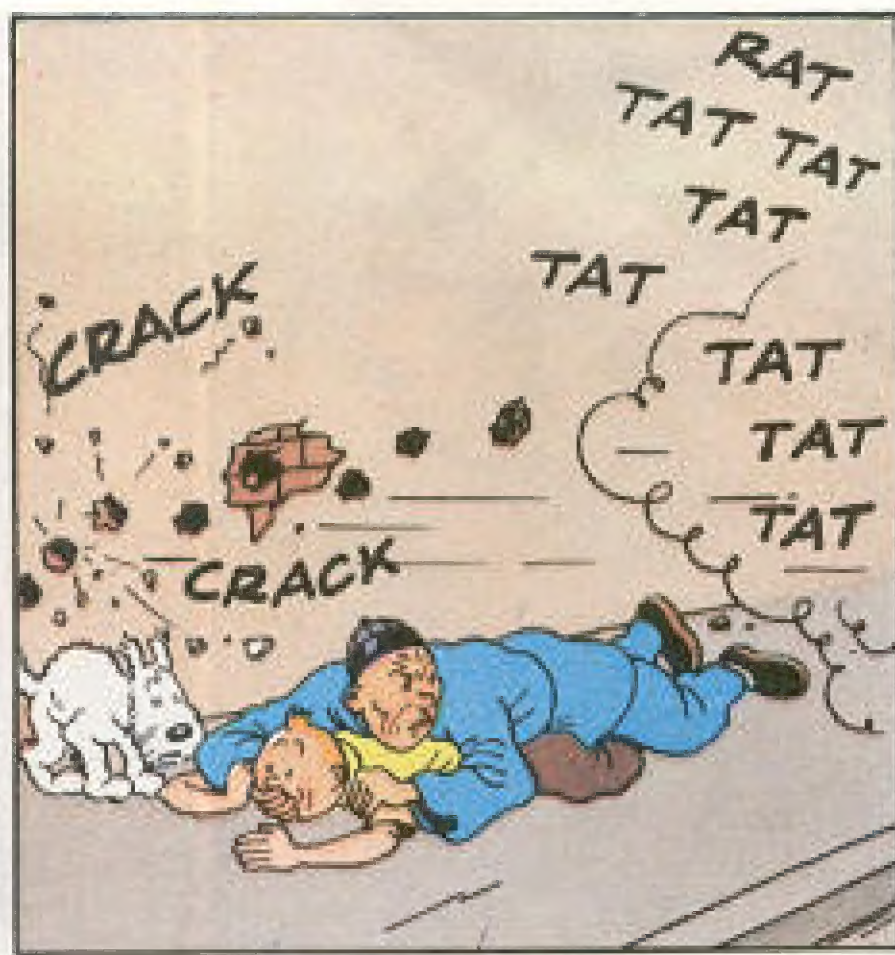


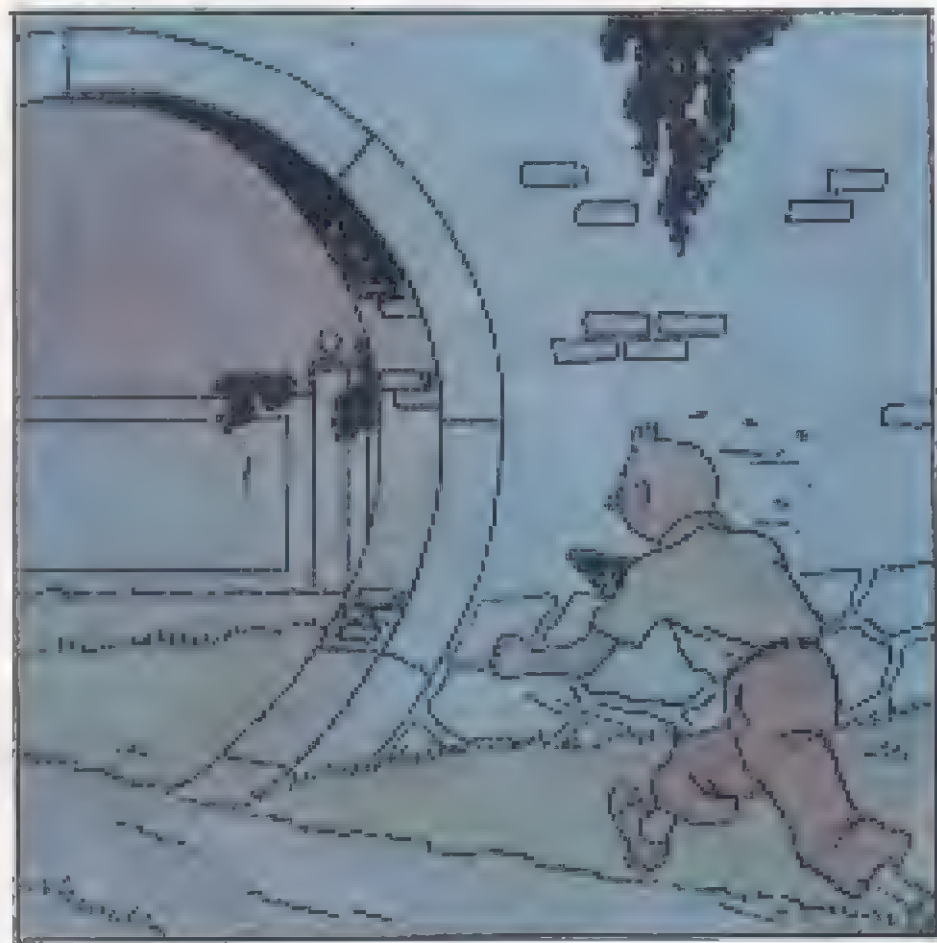
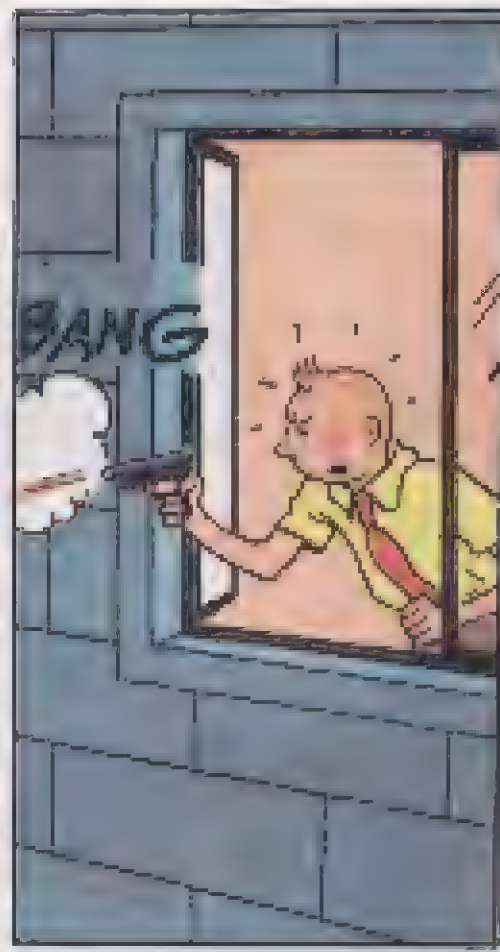
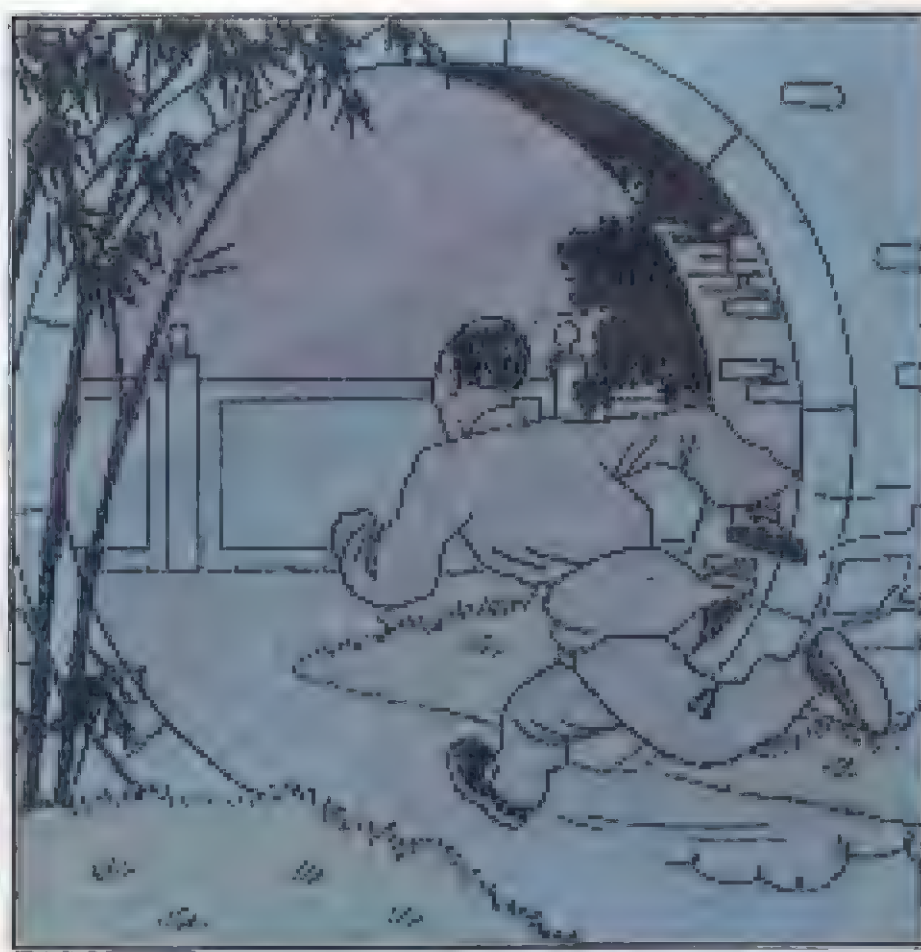


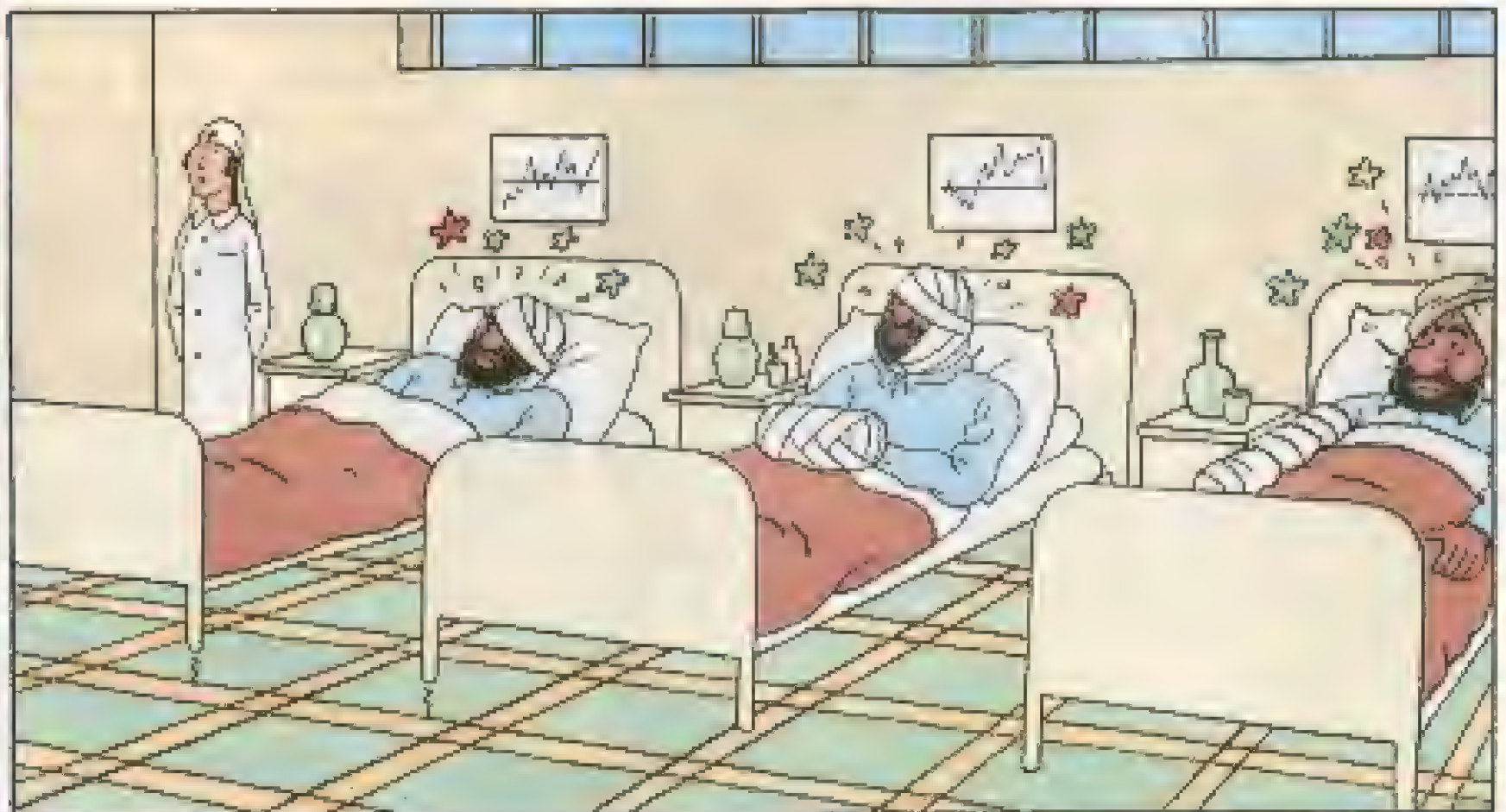
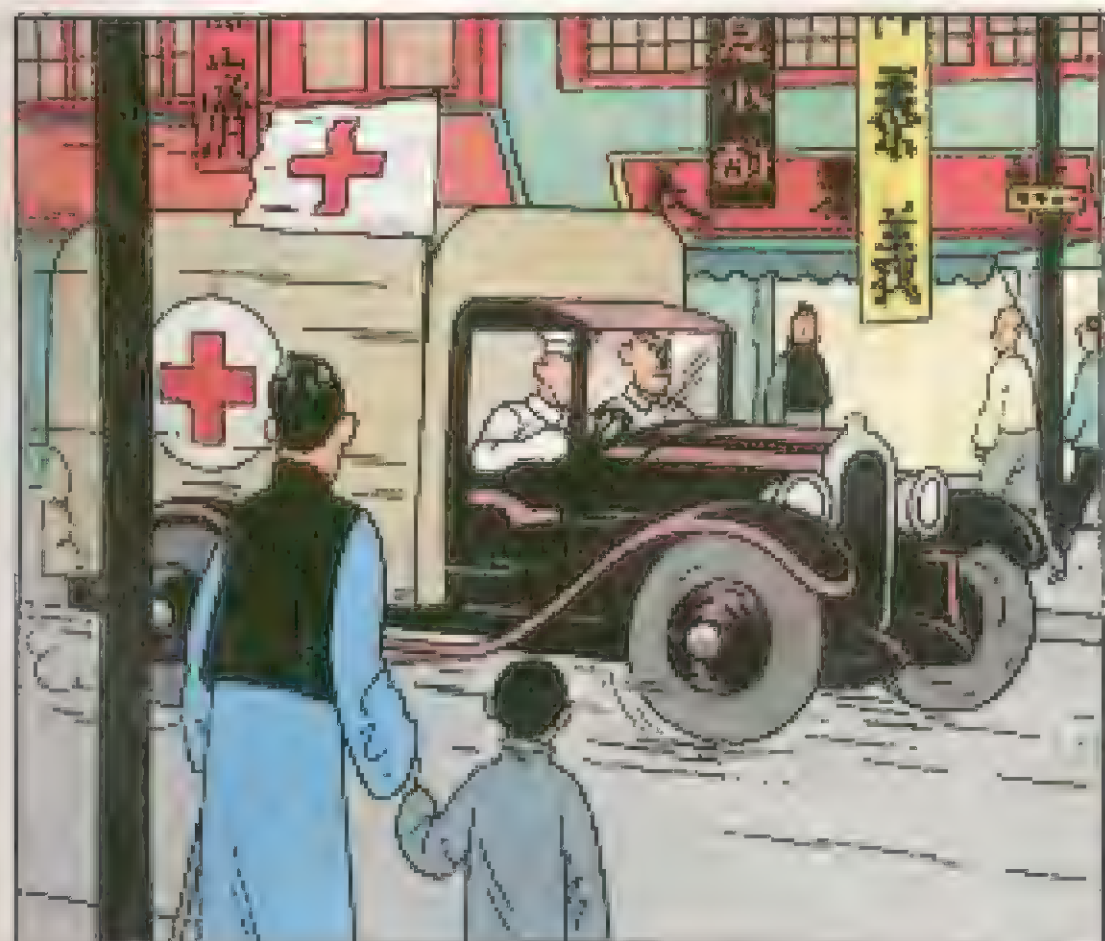
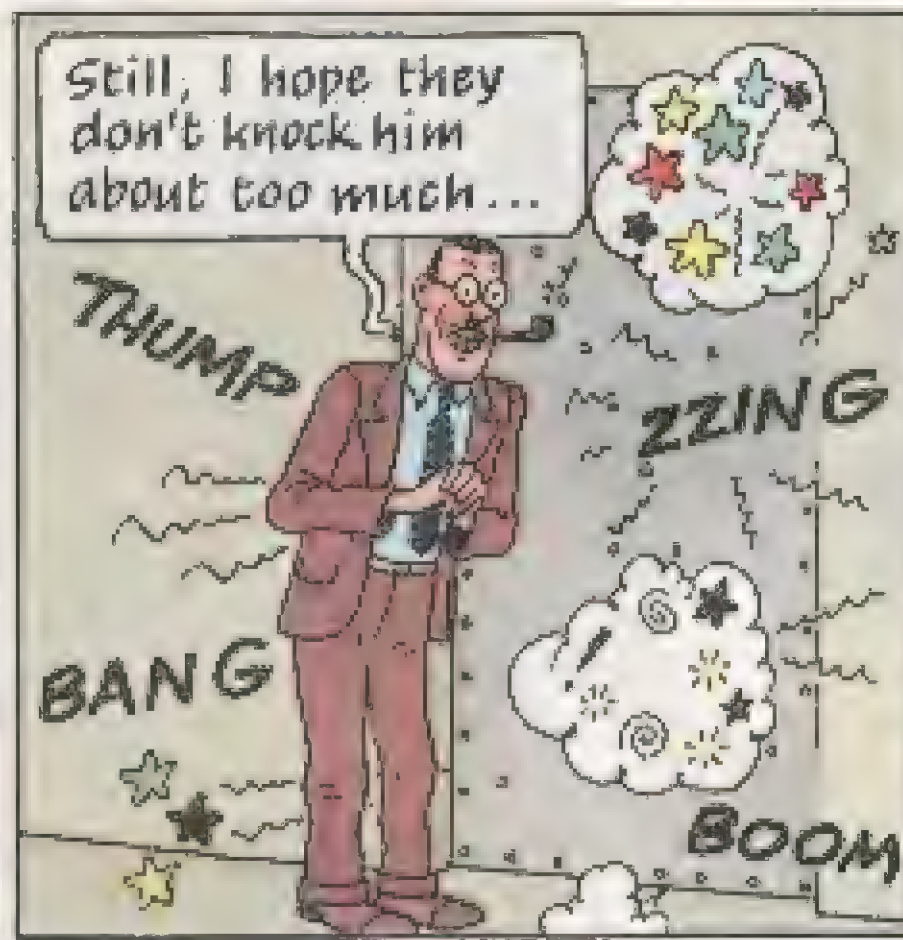
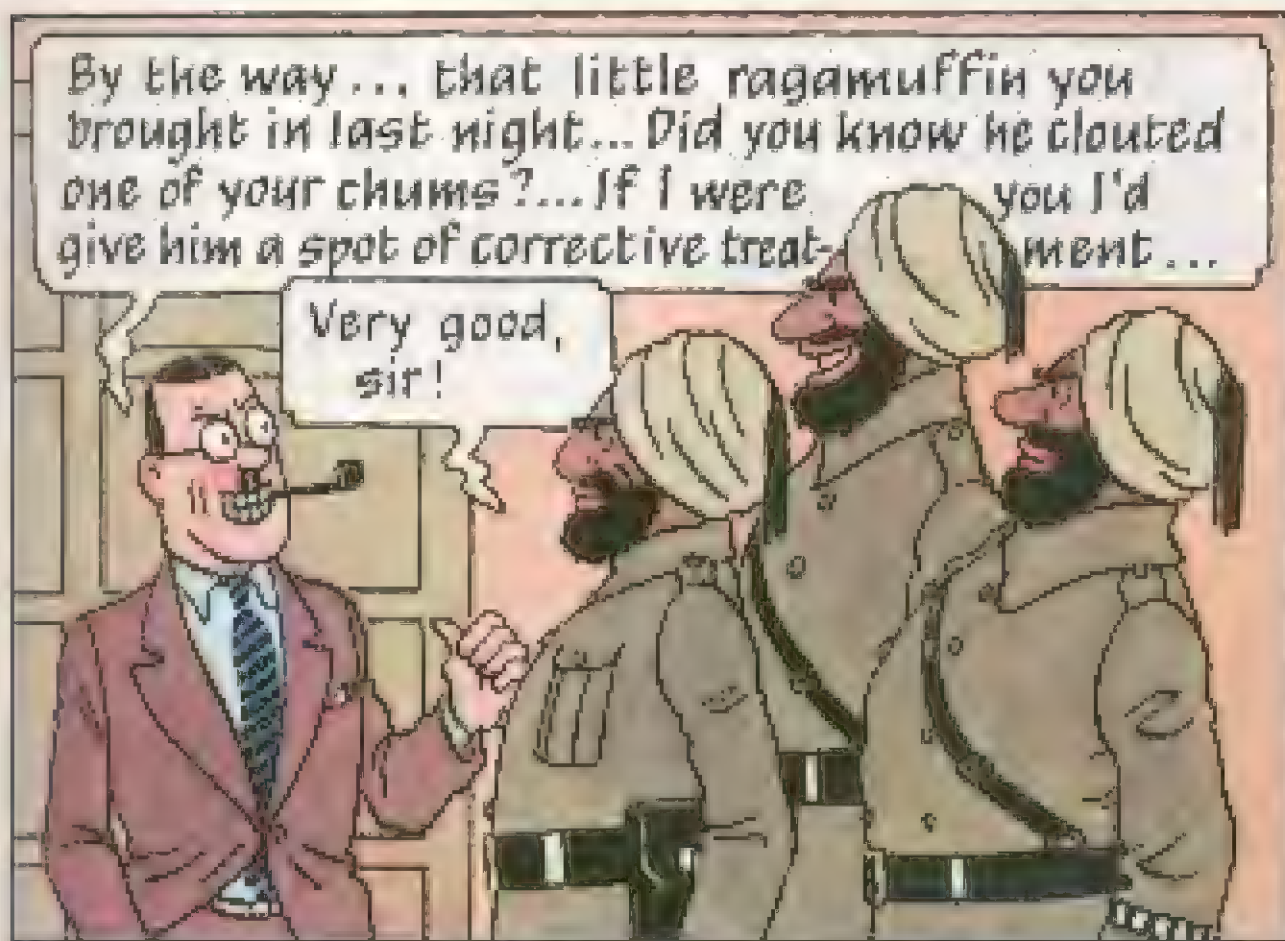
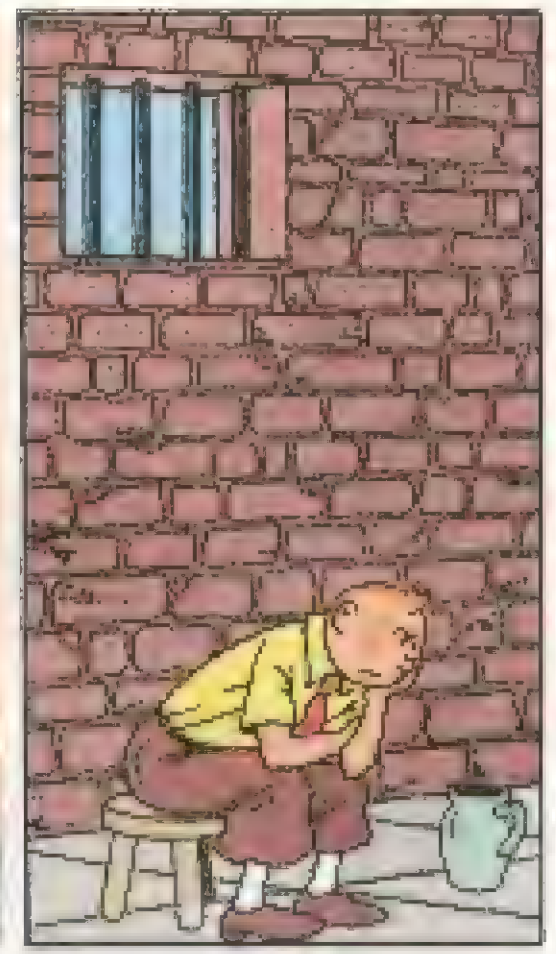
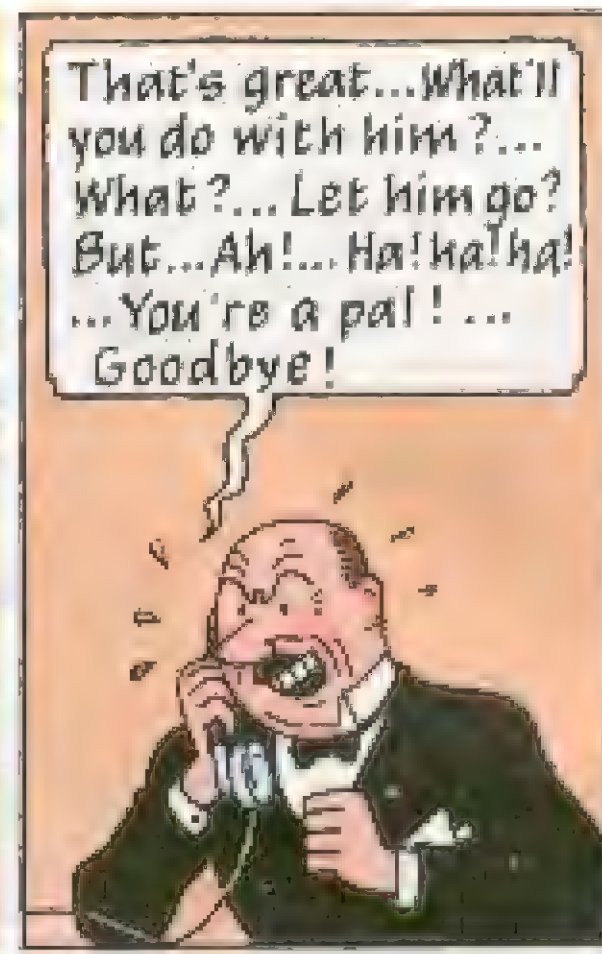
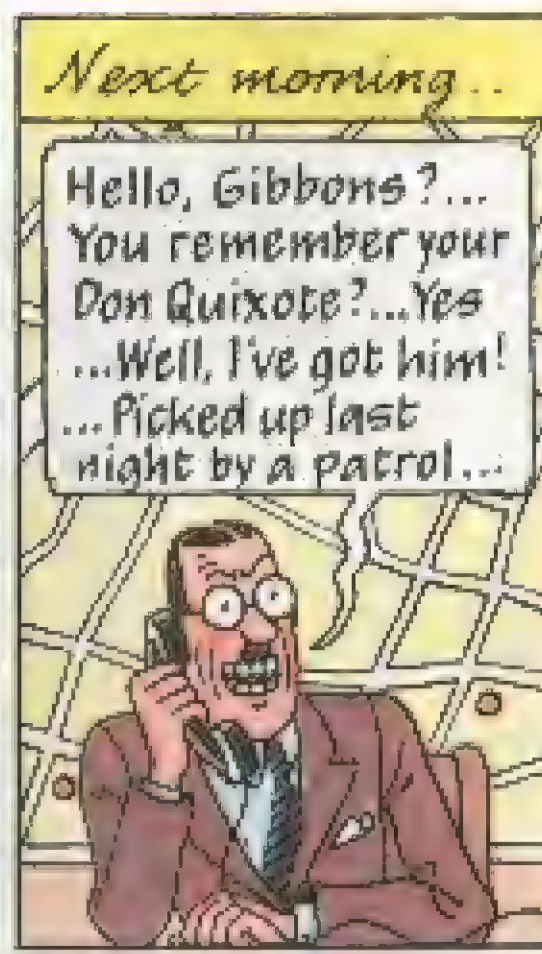


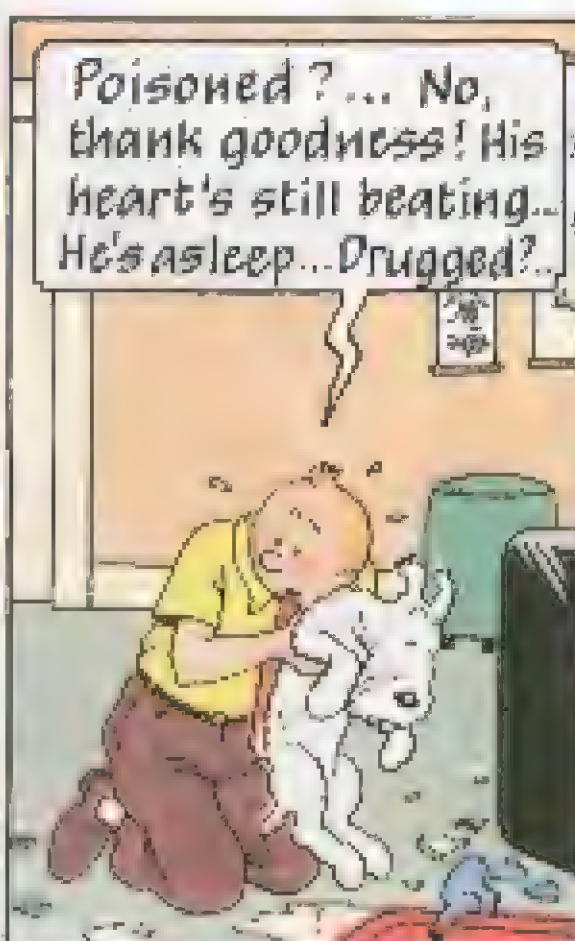
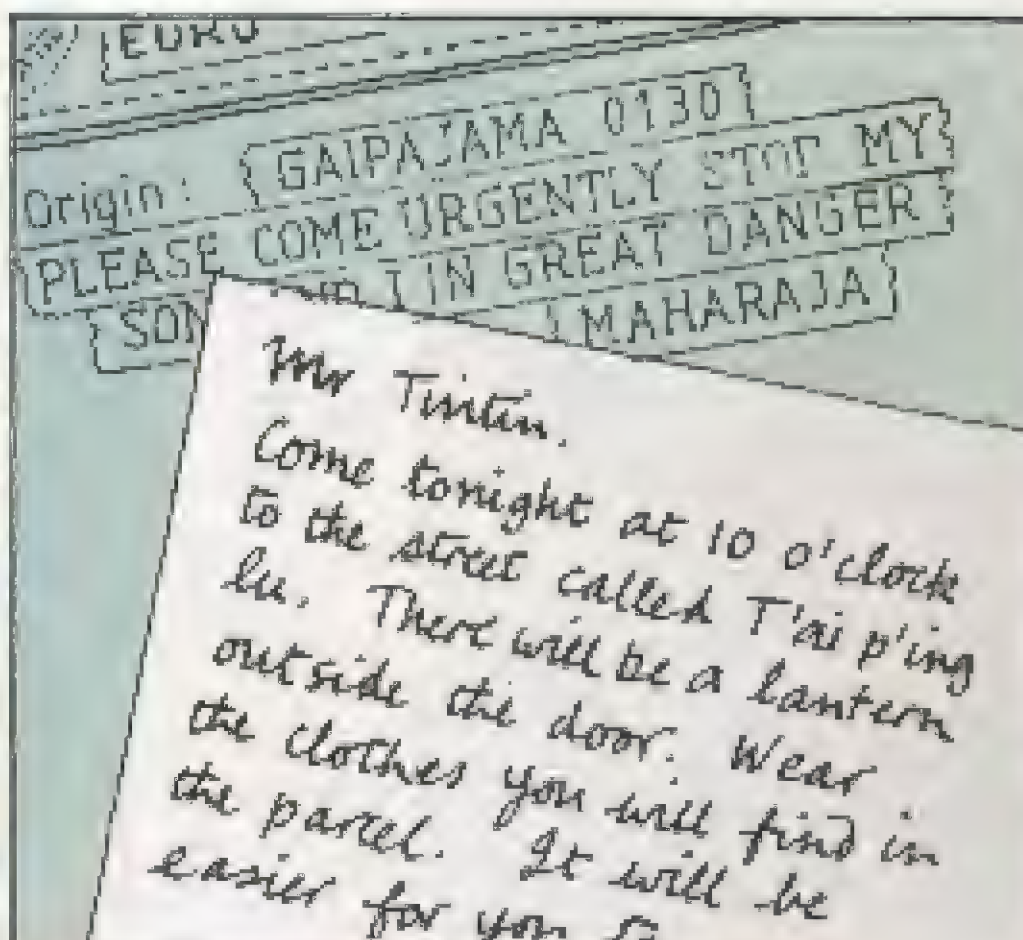




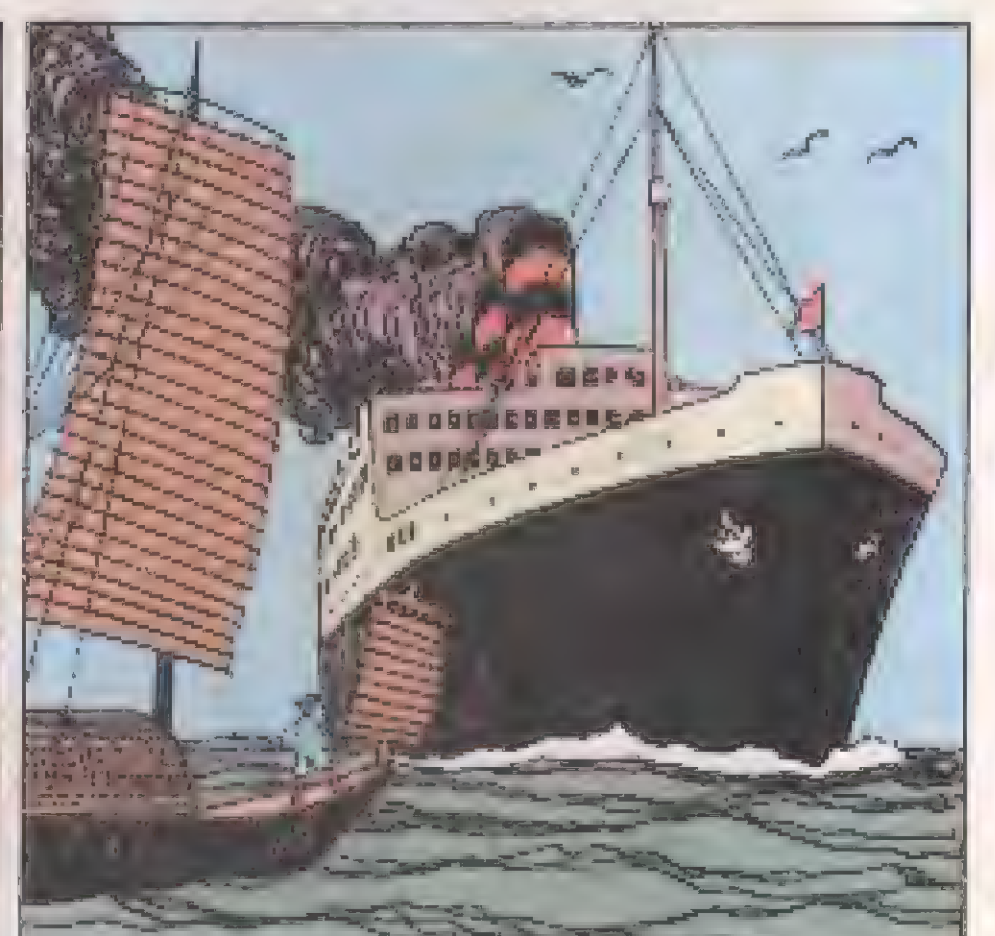
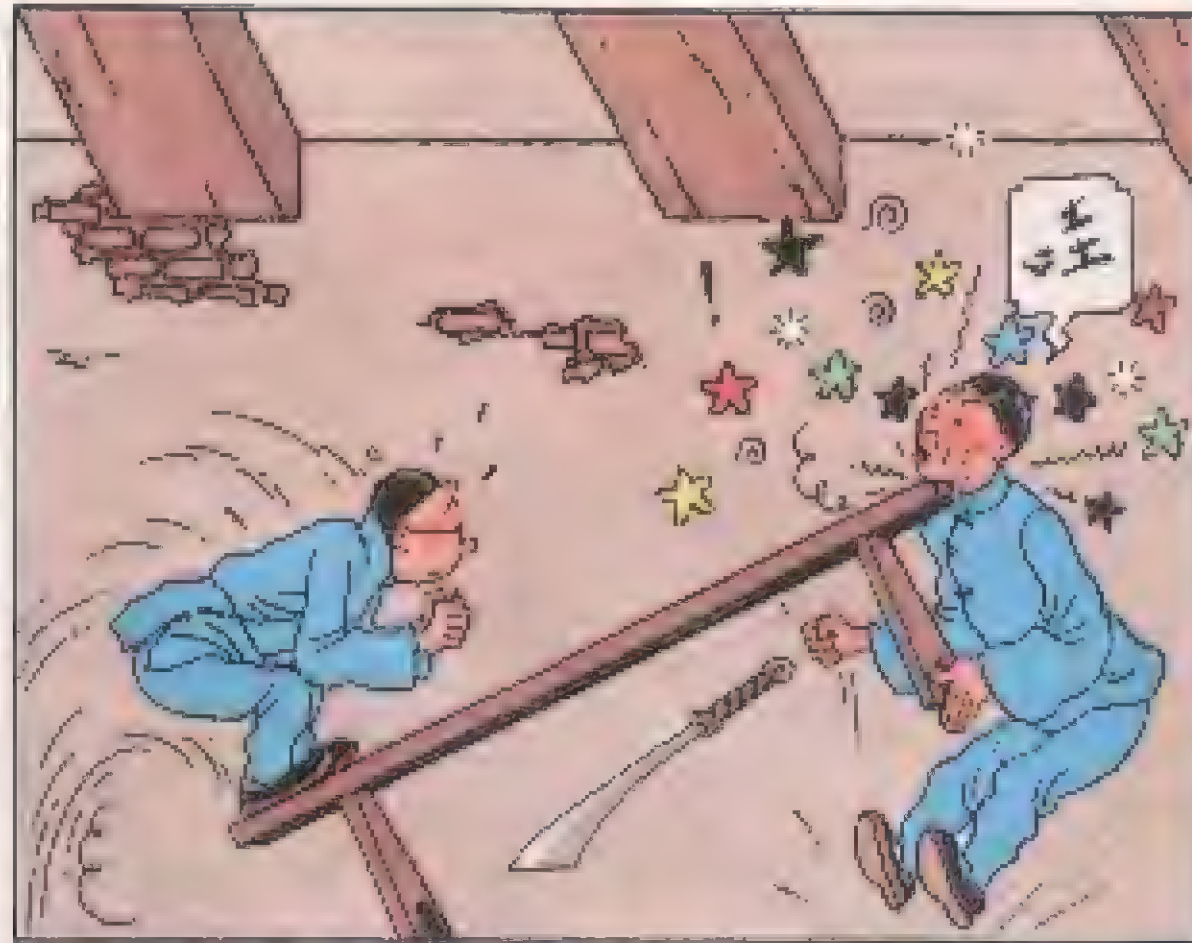












That night...

Are you coming Snowy?
Let's take a stroll
round the deck...

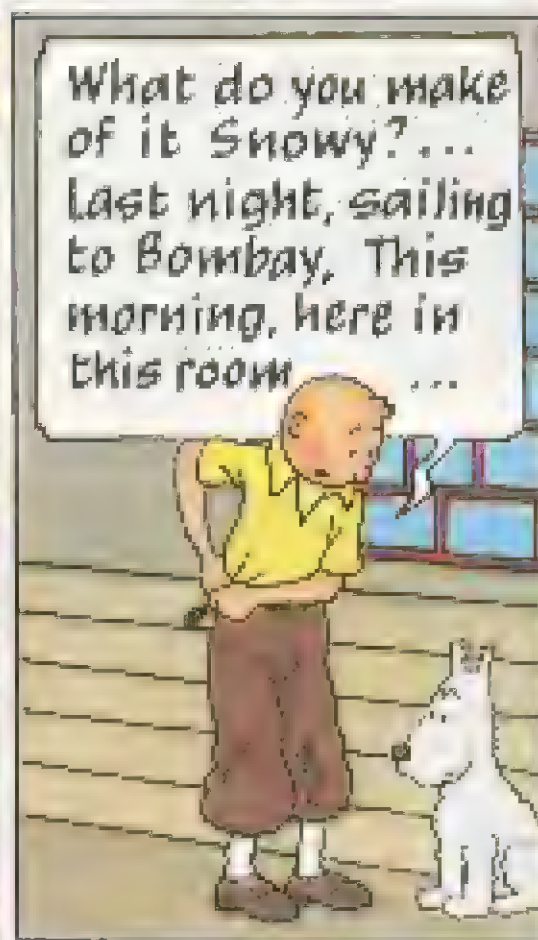
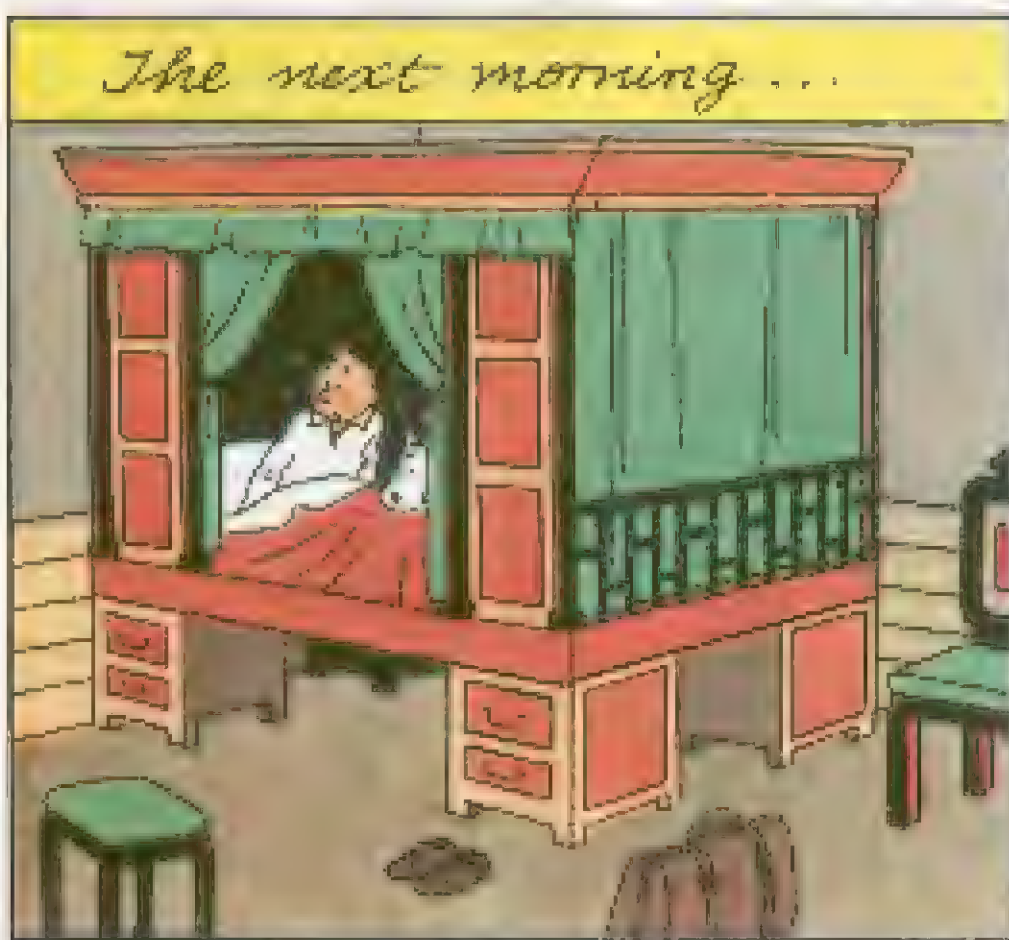
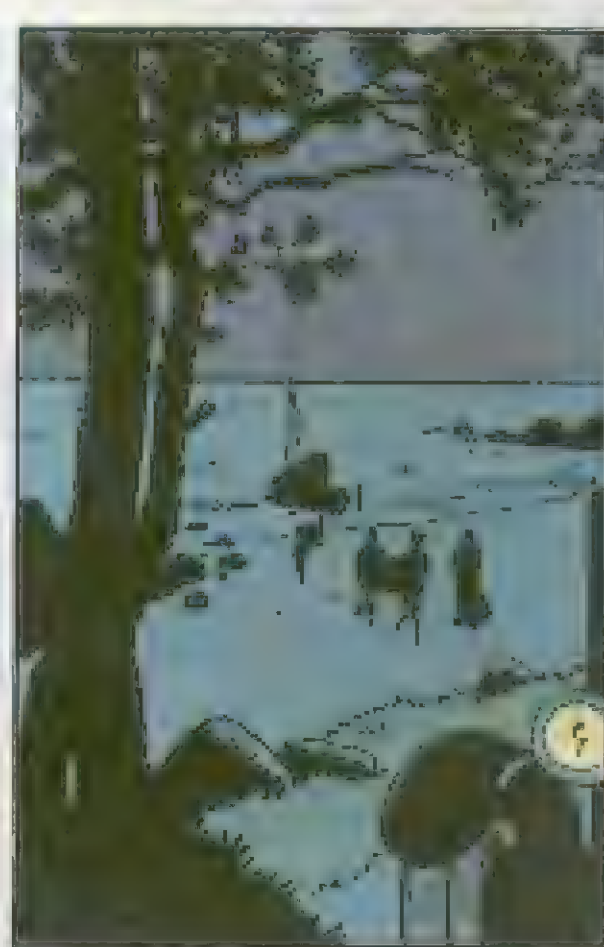
Allright. I'll
catch you up...

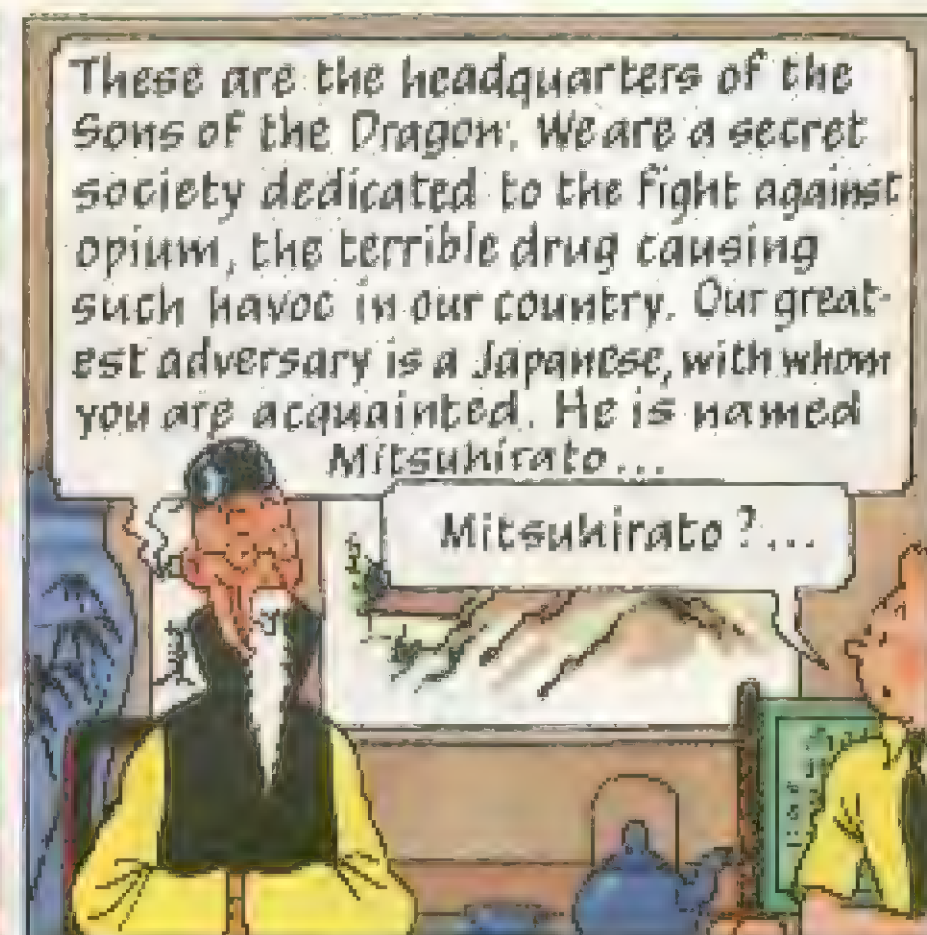
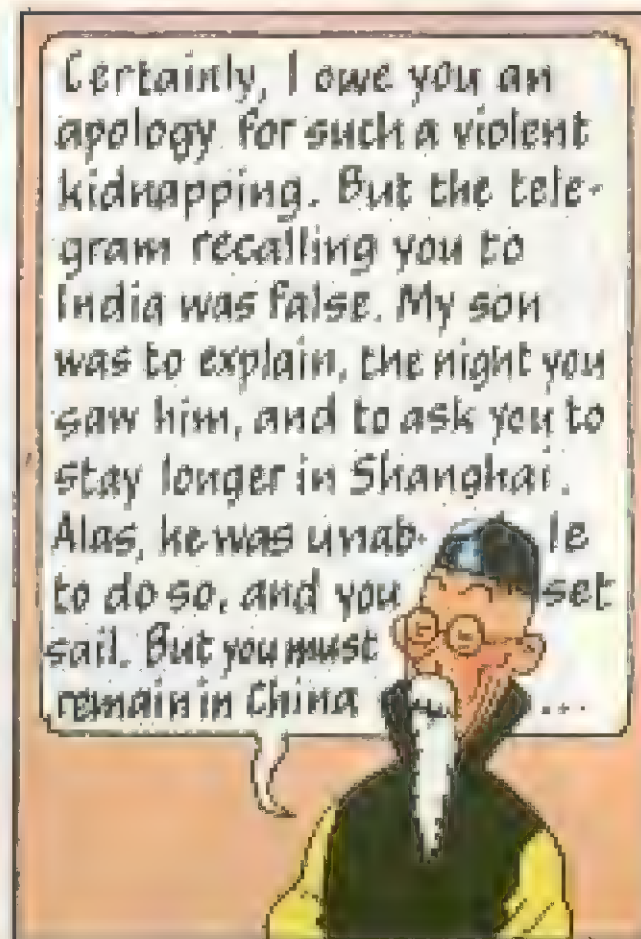
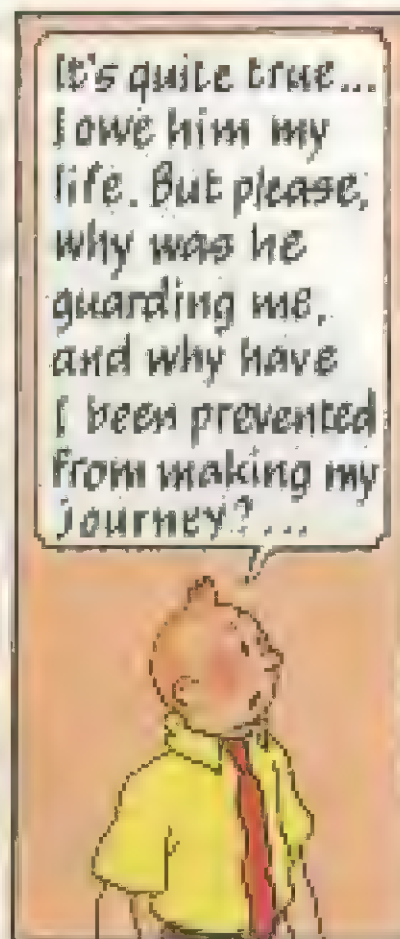
There! It's done!... You haven't
used too much chloroform, have you?

Put some on another handkerchief.

That's it!...
Here goes!

SPLOSH





Yes, Mitsuhiroto. He's a Japanese secret agent in China...and at the same time, one of the most active and evil of men...



Hello, Tokyo?



...Not content with spying, he has joined forces with opium smugglers... He helps them distribute all over the world, but mostly here in China.



Hello?... Hello?
Tokyo here...
Ah, it's you...



Yes, Excellency... All is well... Tintin?... On the way to India... recalled by telegram, sent by me, of course... No, not easy... Those meddling Sons of the Dragon tried to keep him here... I had to take extreme measures...



Perfect!... Now the coast is clear for... you know what. Succeed in that... and you will receive the Order of Fujiyama, first class!



I'm certain to succeed, Excellency, provided your propaganda is well organised... It will be?... That is good!... Goodbye then, Excellency...



We hoped you would be willing to help us, so we sent a messenger to India... But Mitsuhiroto's spy network is excellent. They attacked the messenger and he went mad... Yet you still came, and...



WOOAH!
WOOAH!



That's Snowy!



Snowy!...
He's gone!

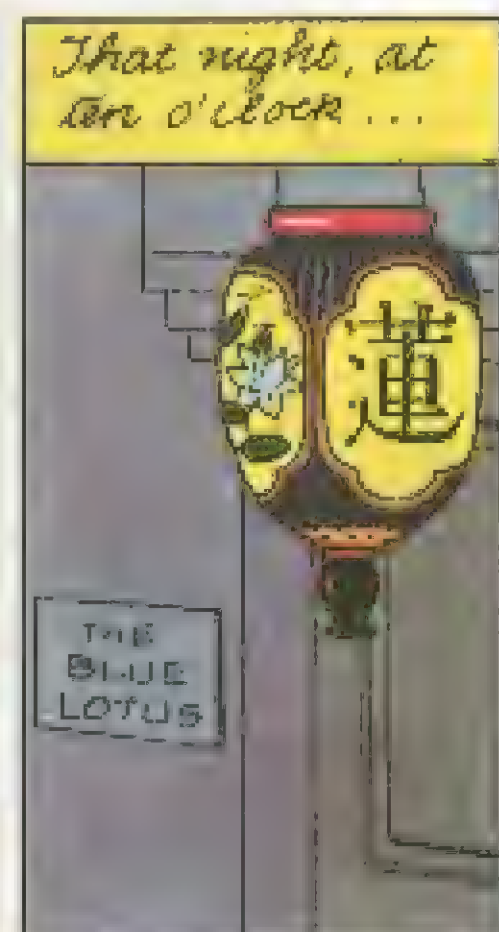
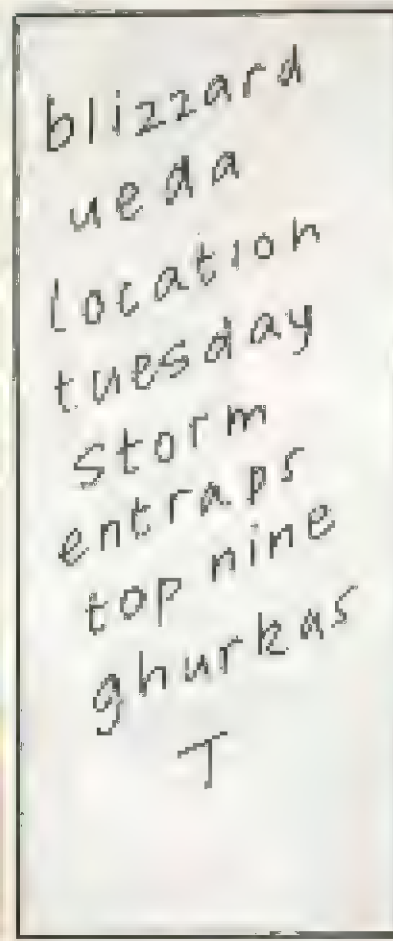
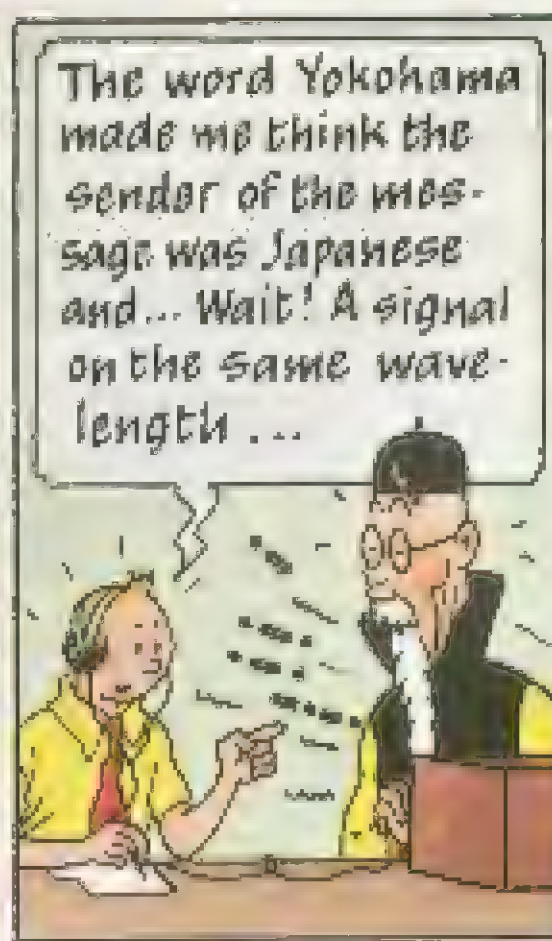
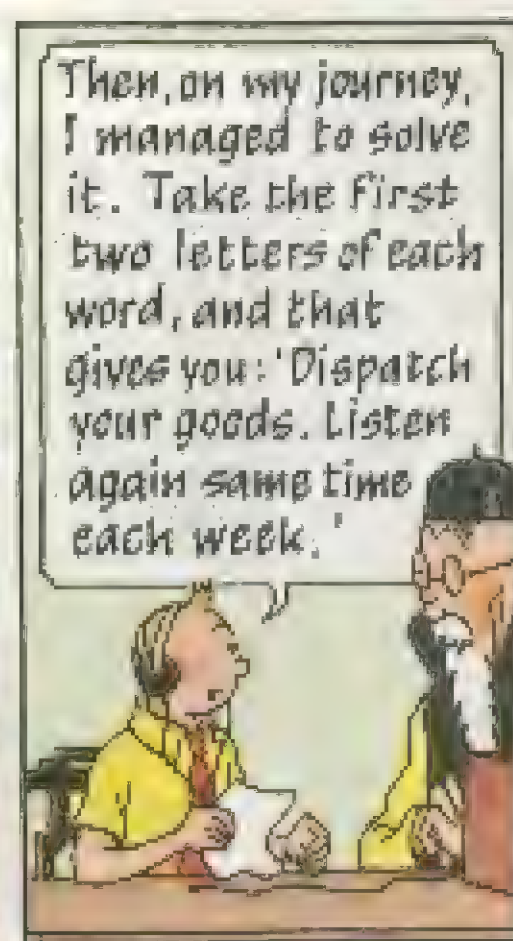
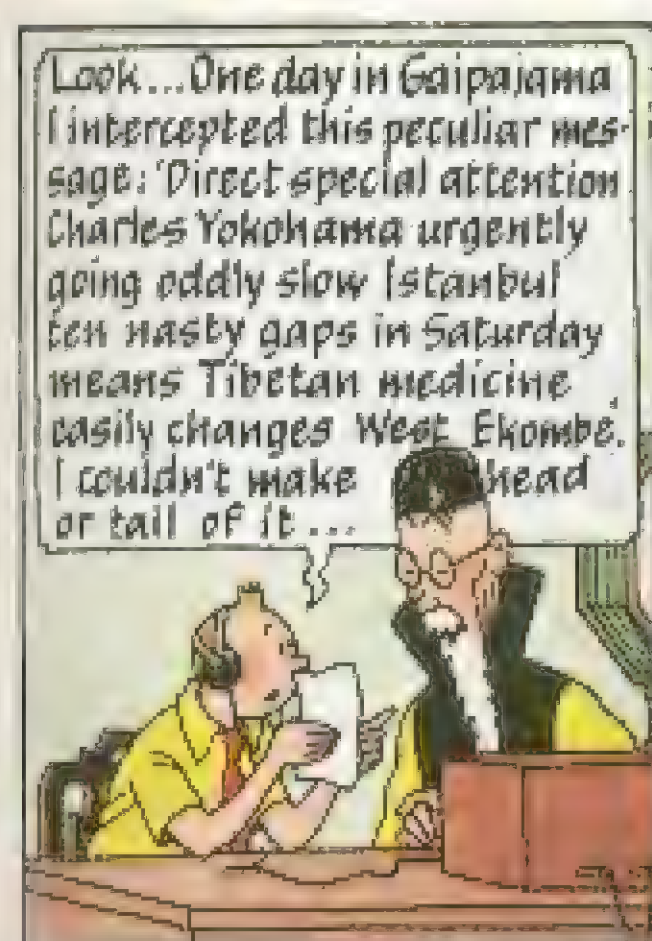
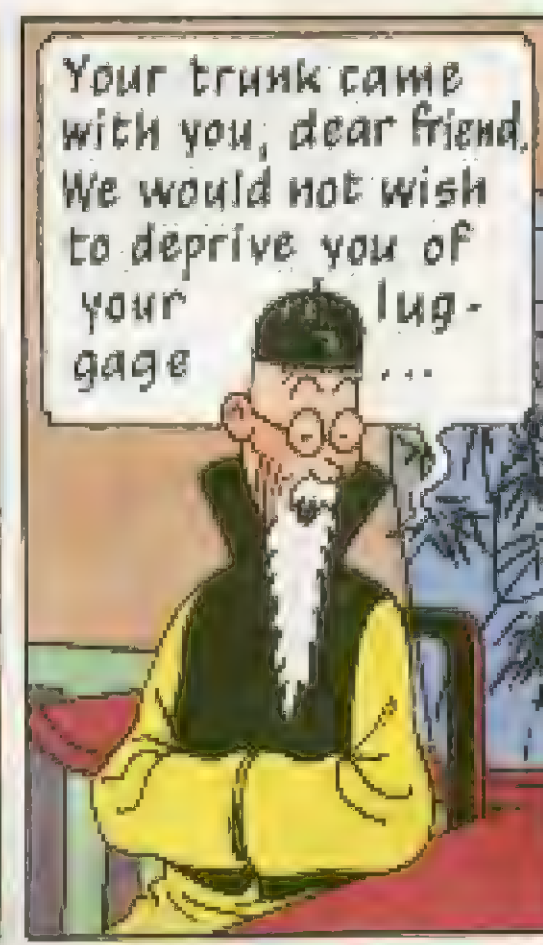


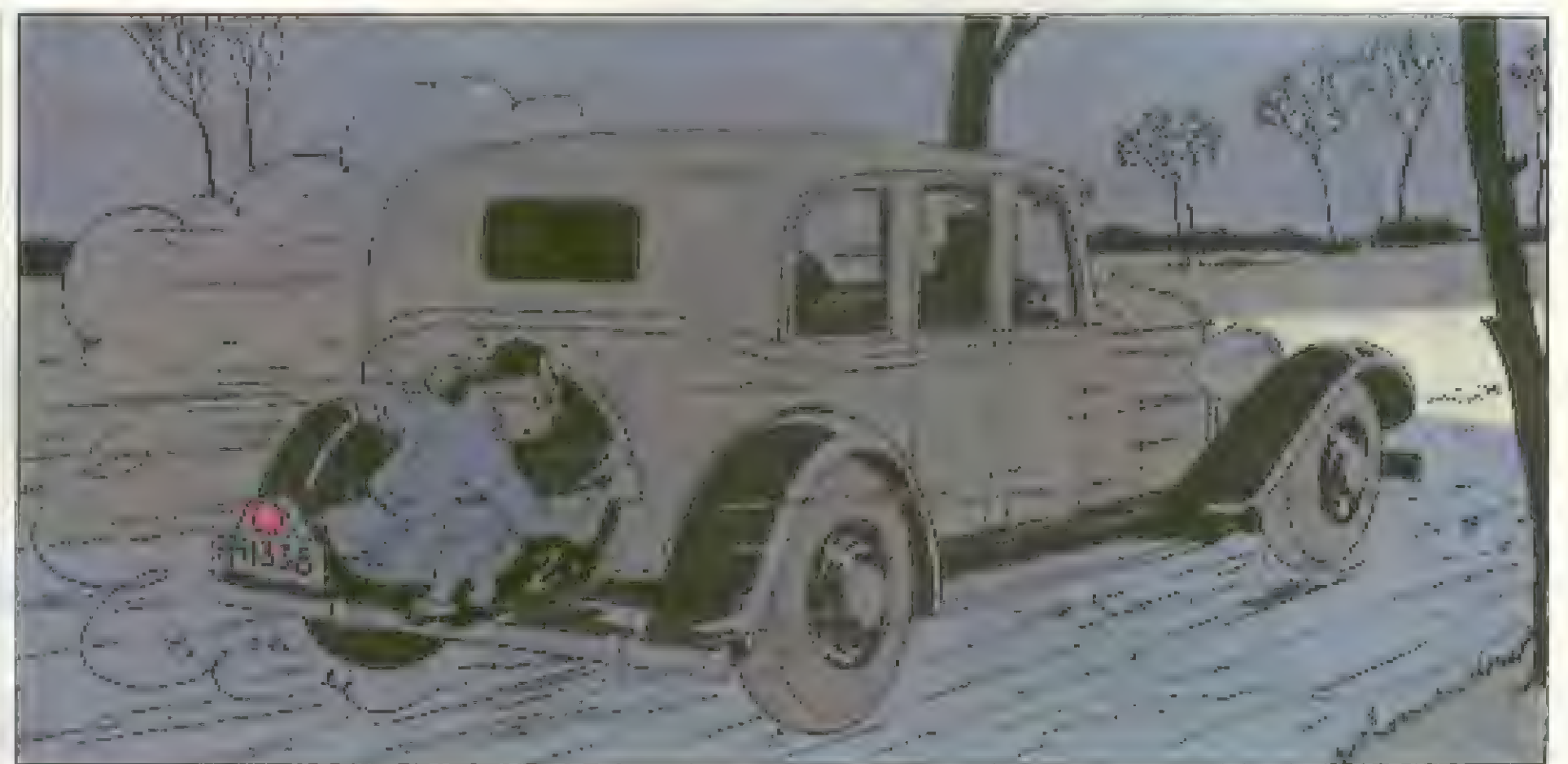
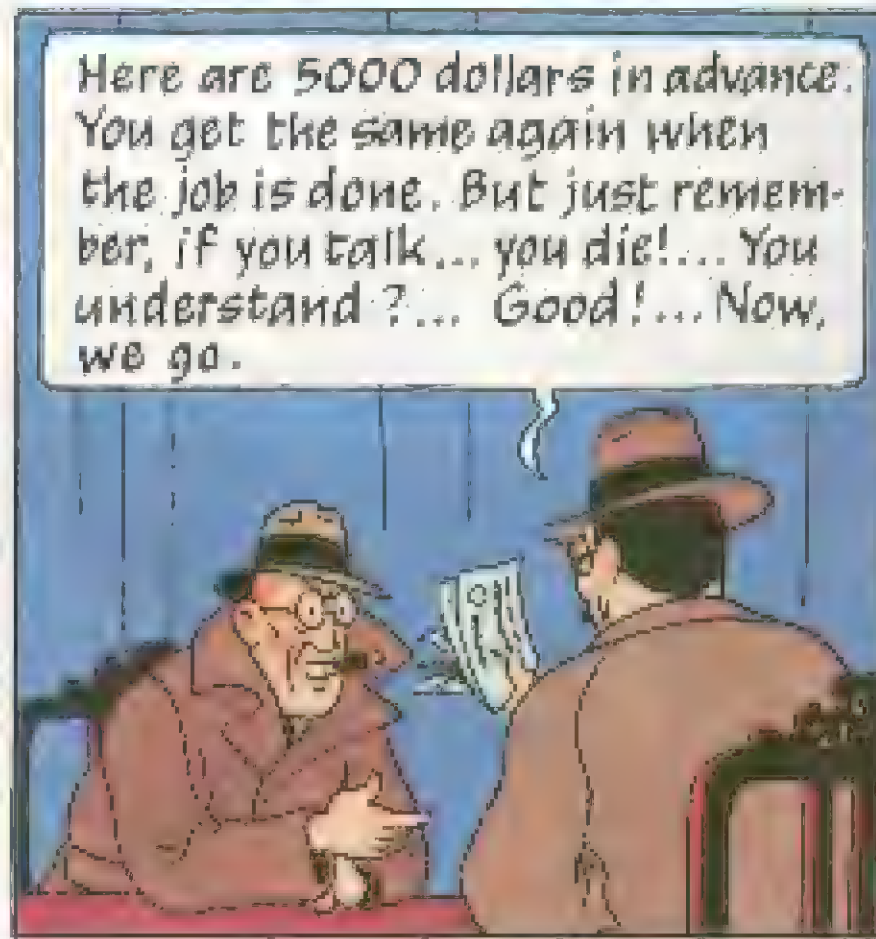
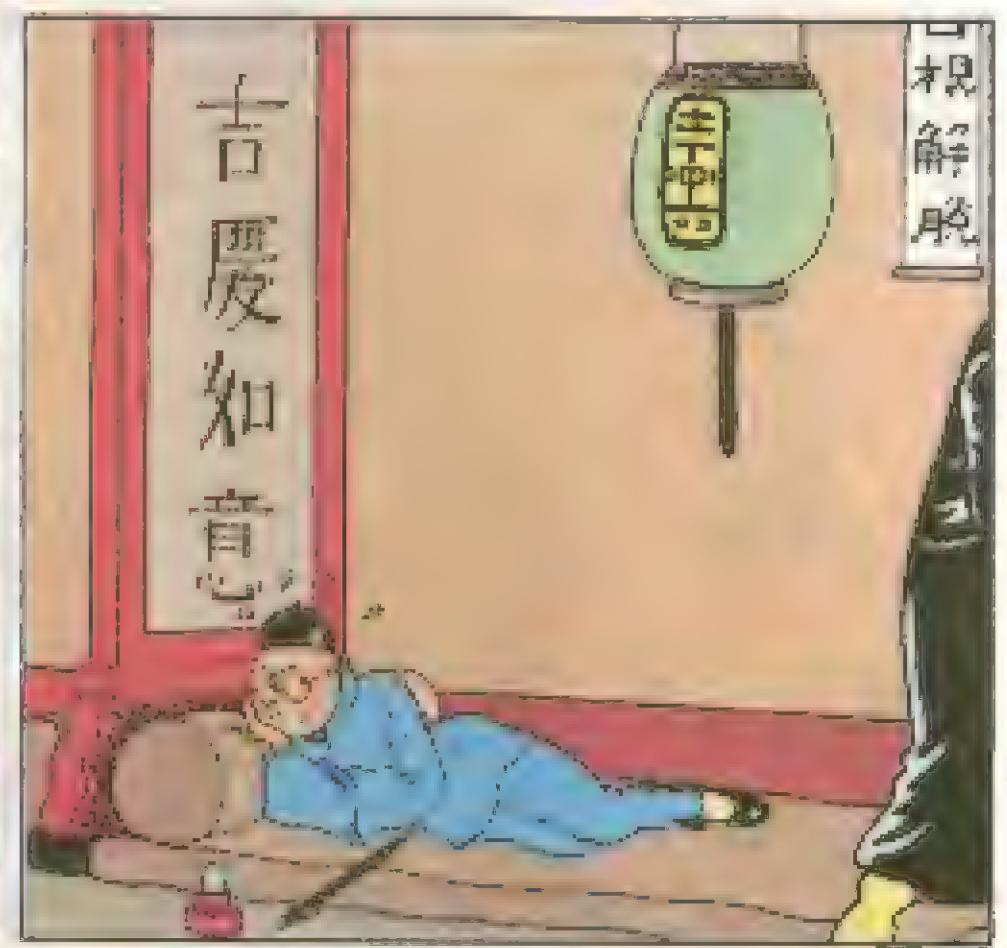
I'm going to help you to find the way. Don't worry, there's nothing to it... It just means cutting off your head...



Look how sharp the blade... is...







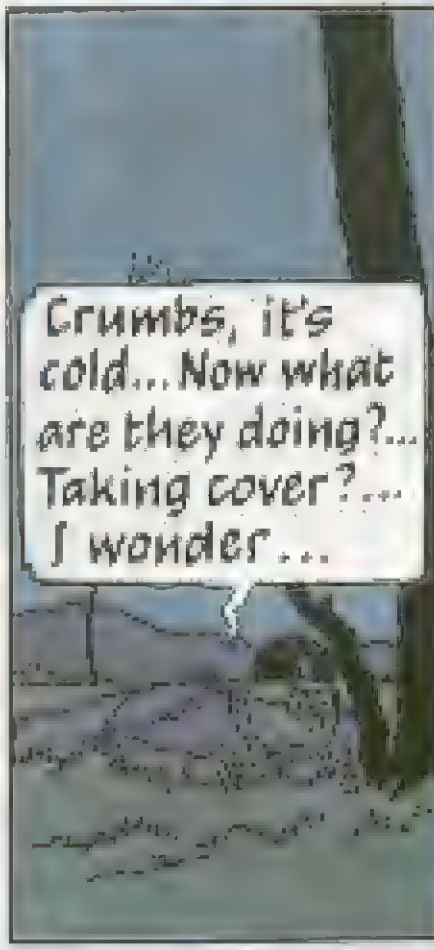


You have everything ?

Careful !...
We've
arrived ...



Now then, to work ! ...



Crumbs, it's
cold... Now what
are they doing?...
Taking cover?...
I wonder...



Perfect!



Hello?... Cheng Fu station?...
Chinese bandits have just
blown the track... At post 123.



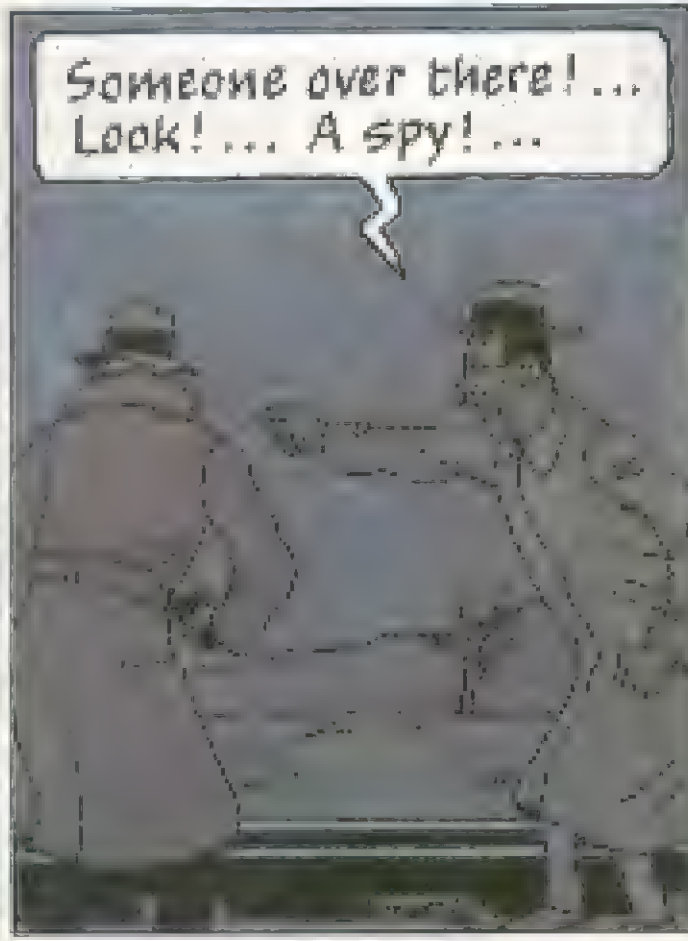
Brrrr !
I'm frozen!



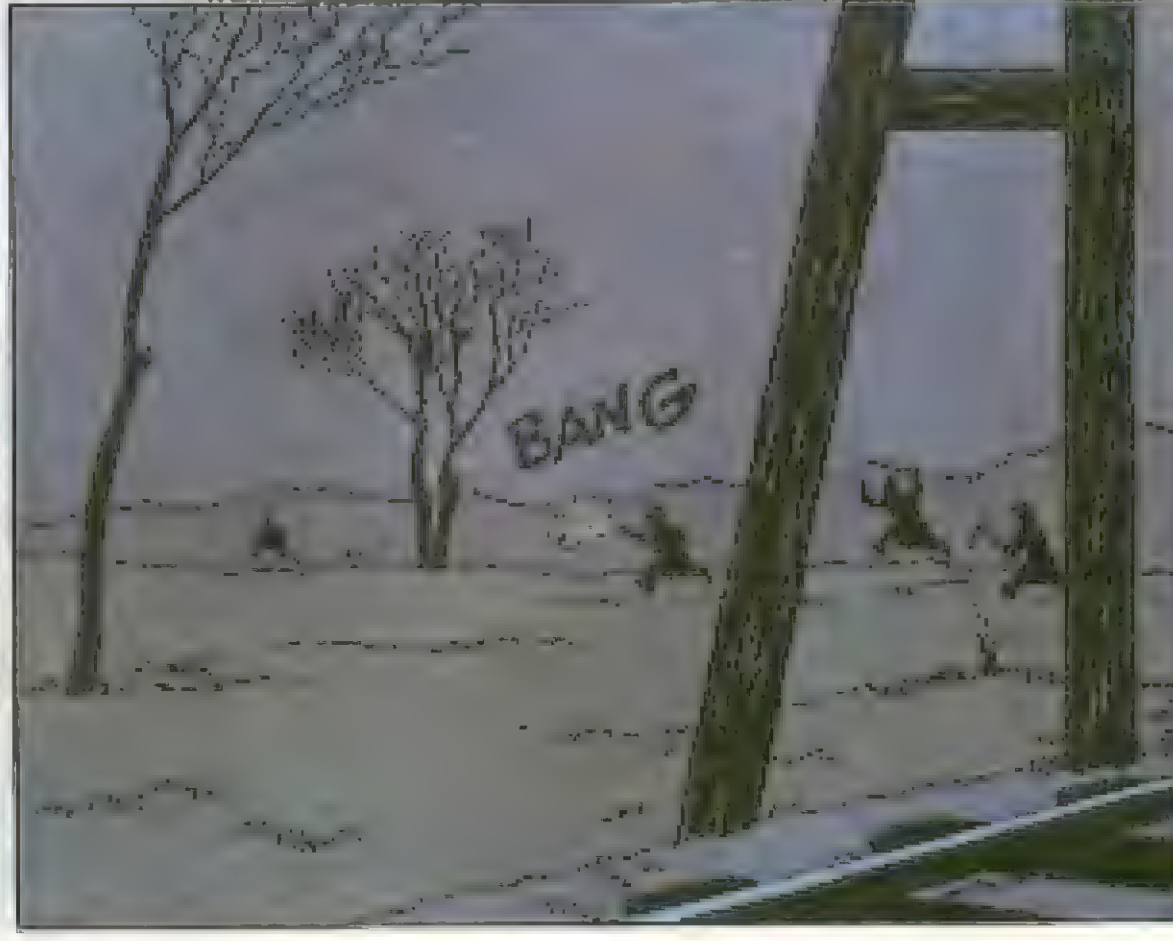
ATCHOOOO!

!

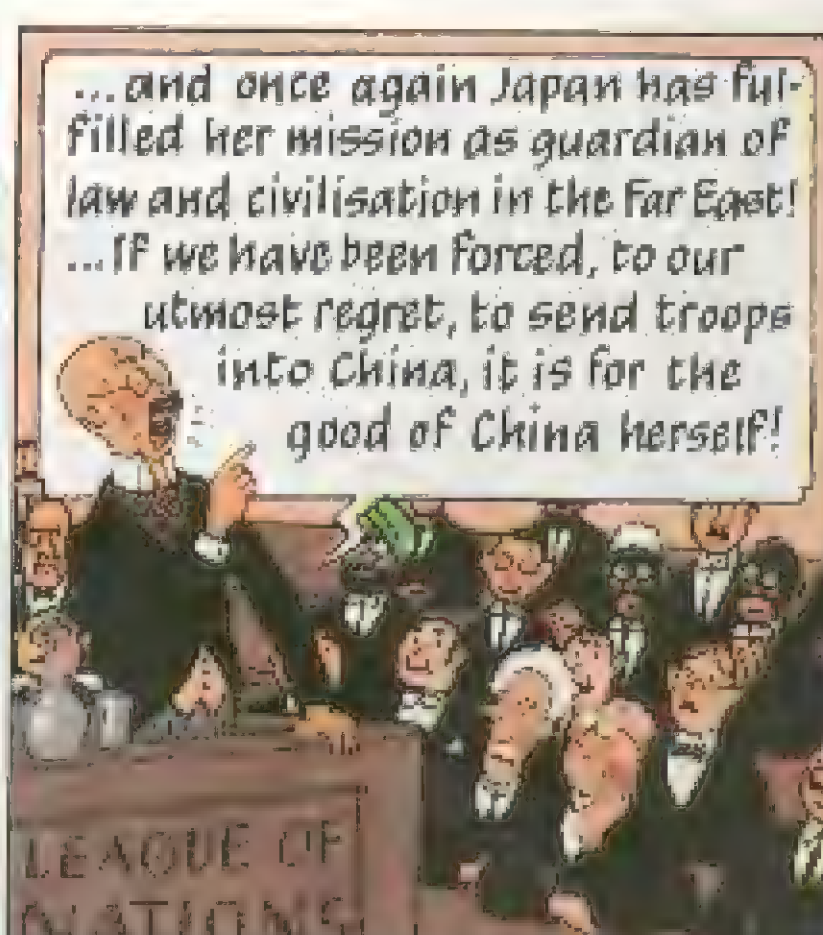
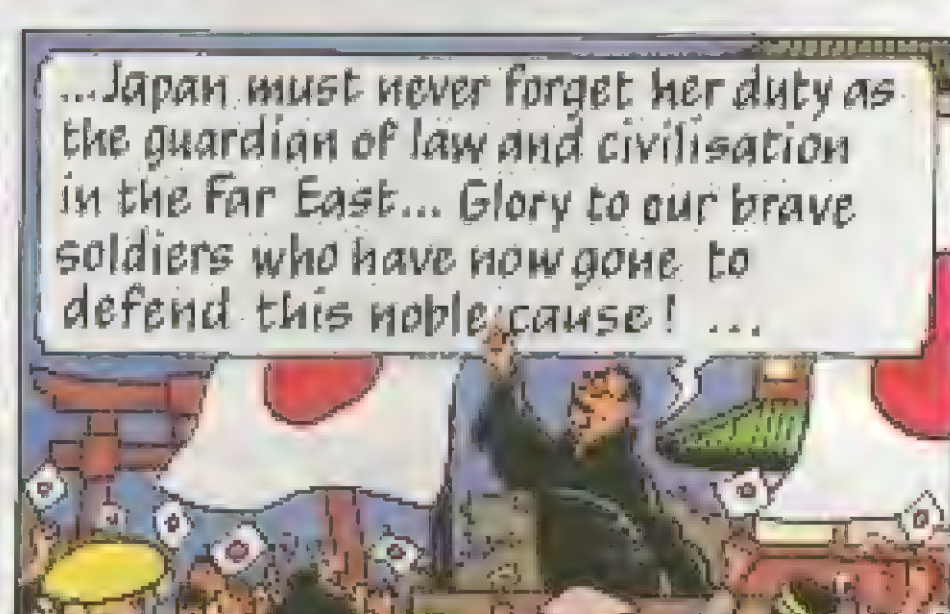
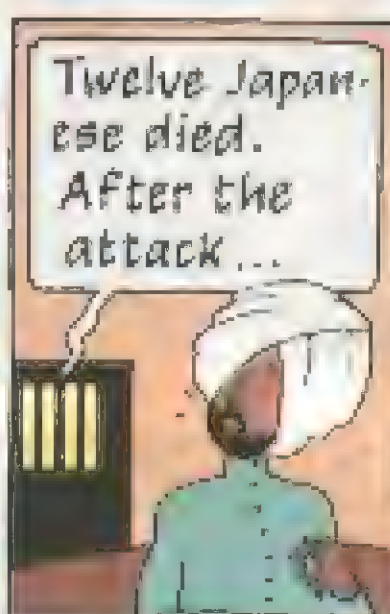
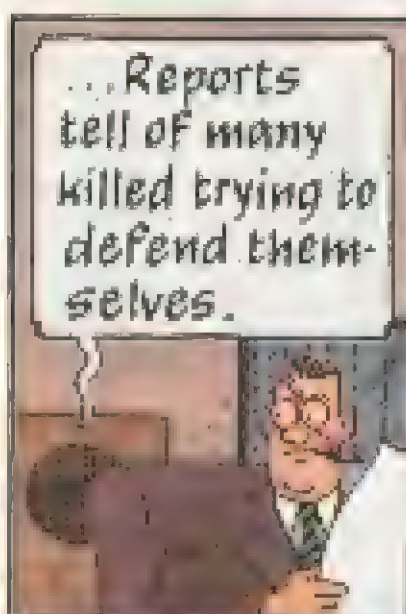
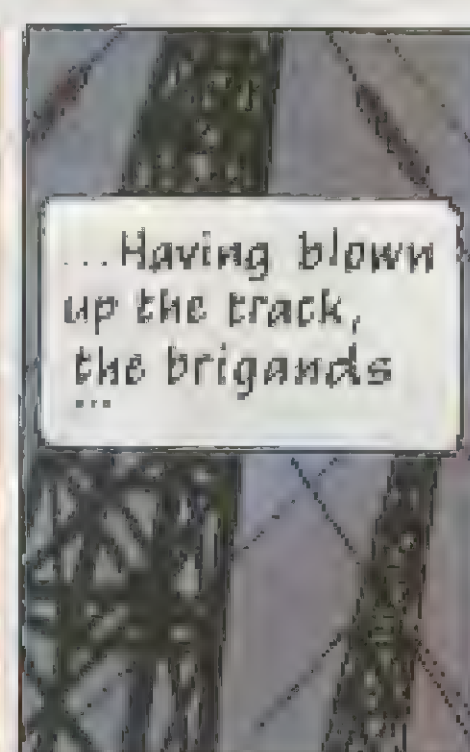
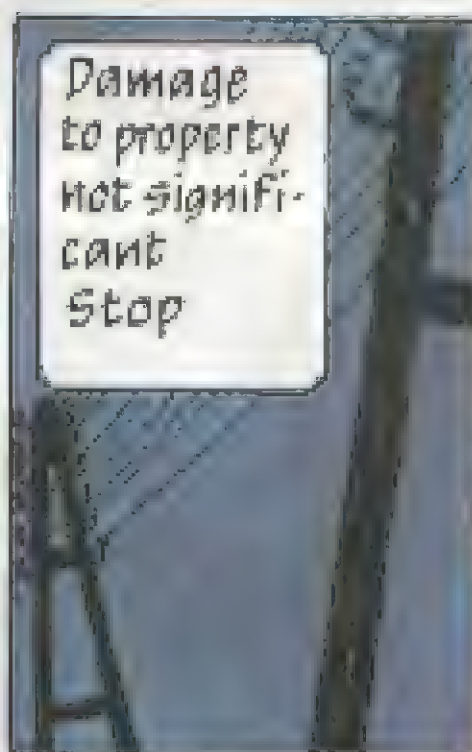
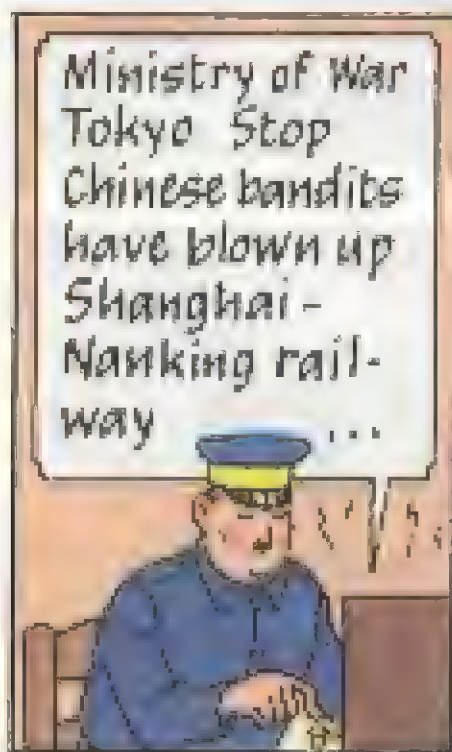
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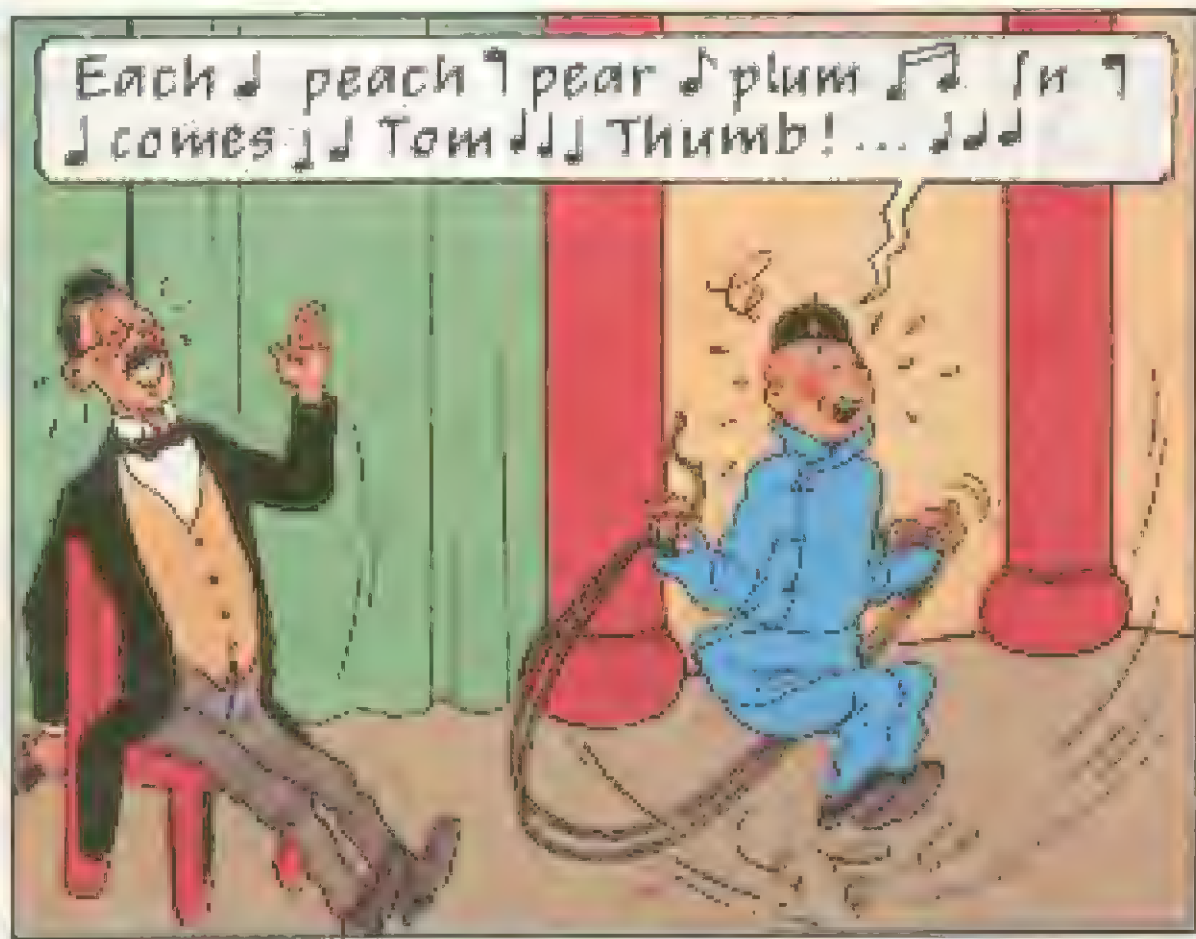
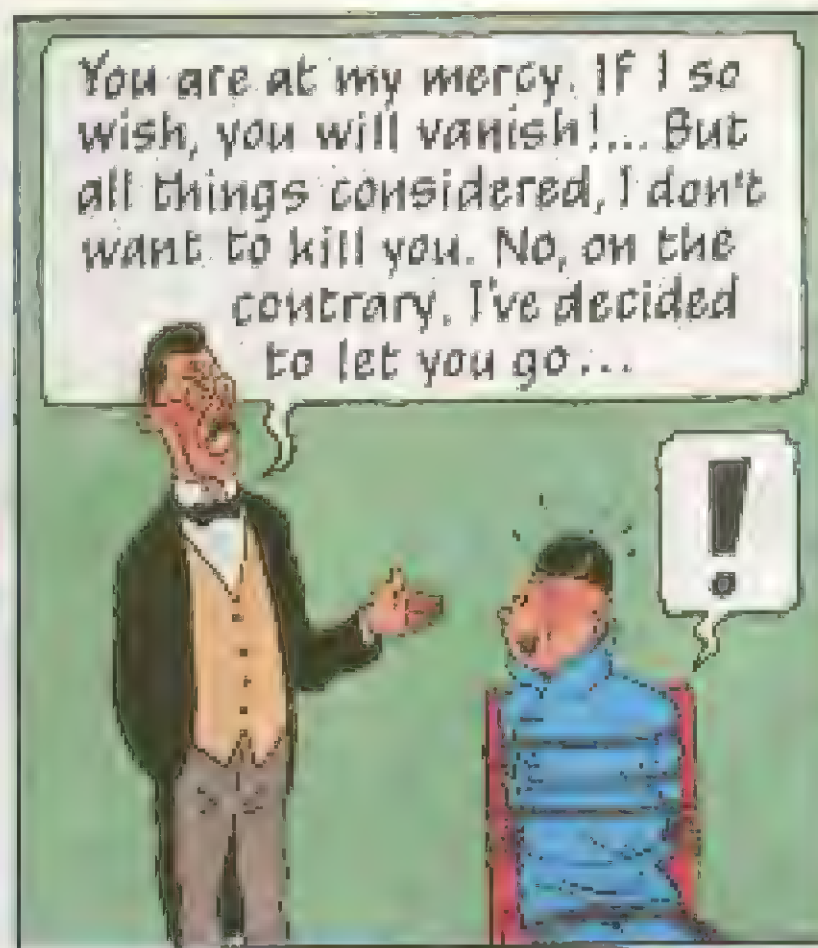
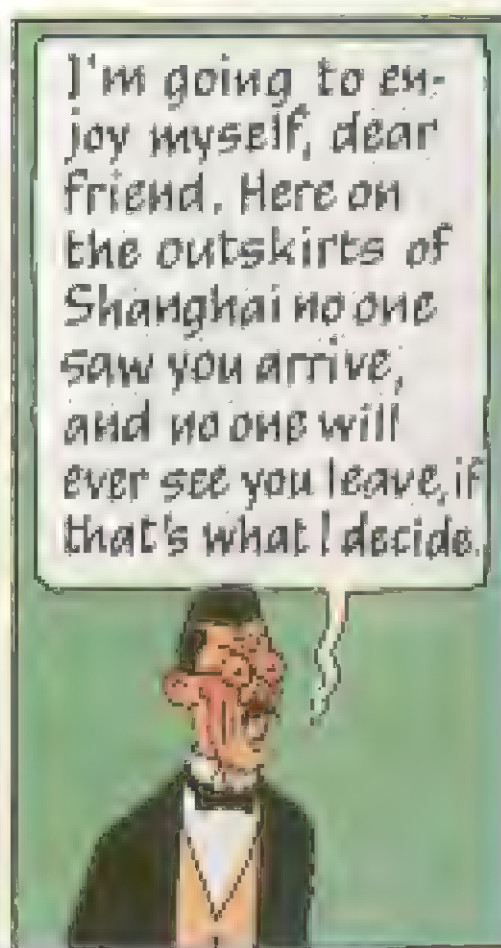
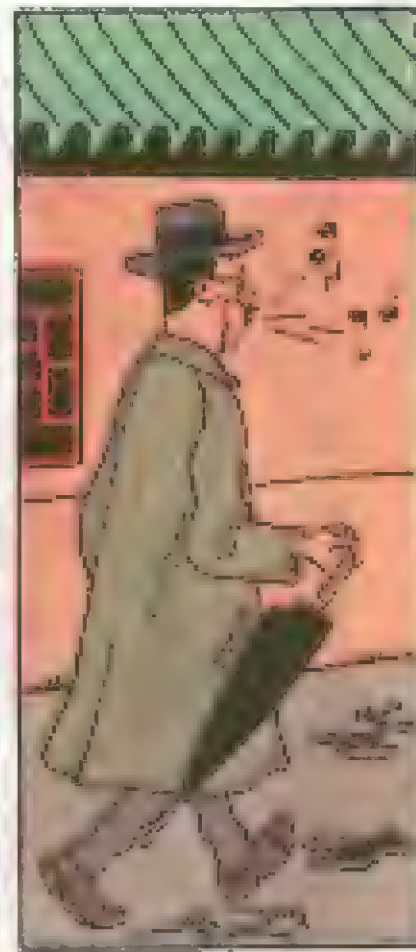


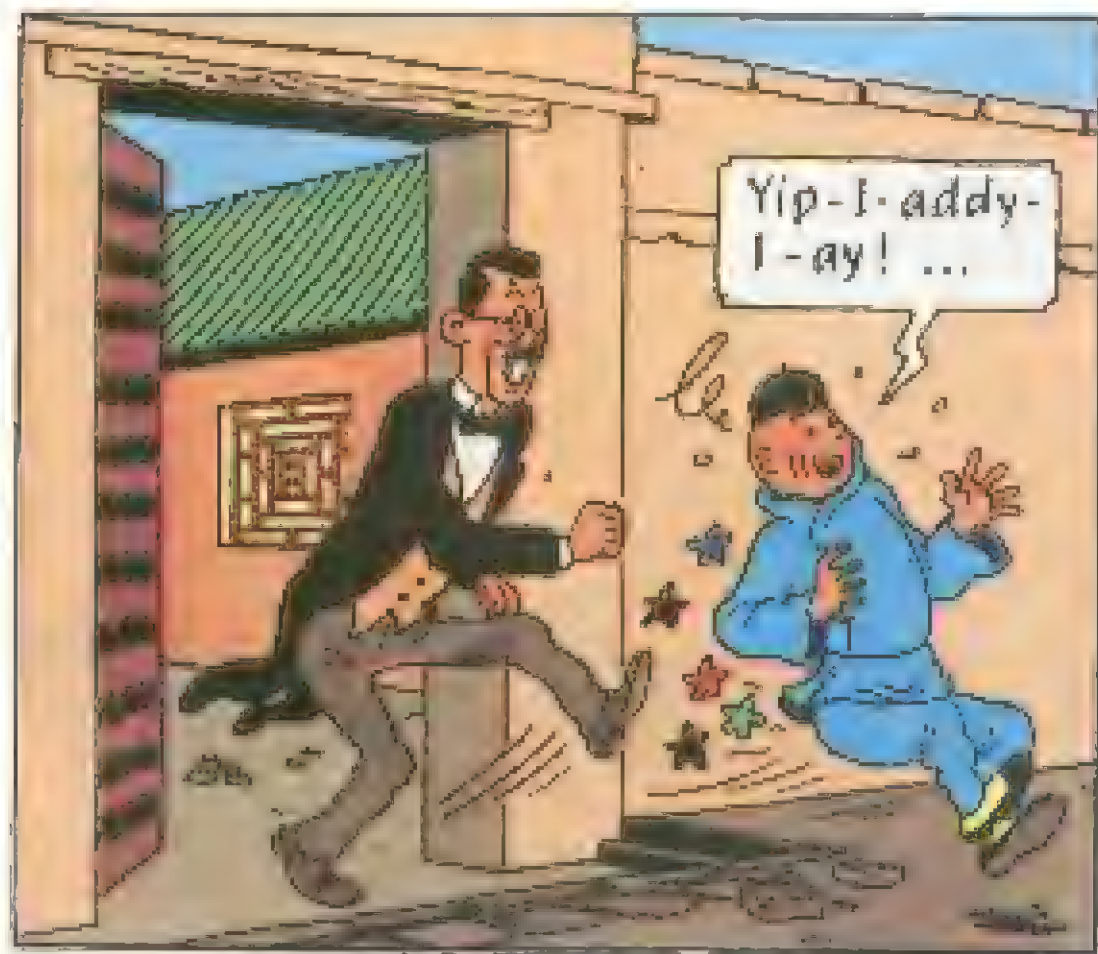
Someone over there ! ...
Look ! ... A spy ! ...



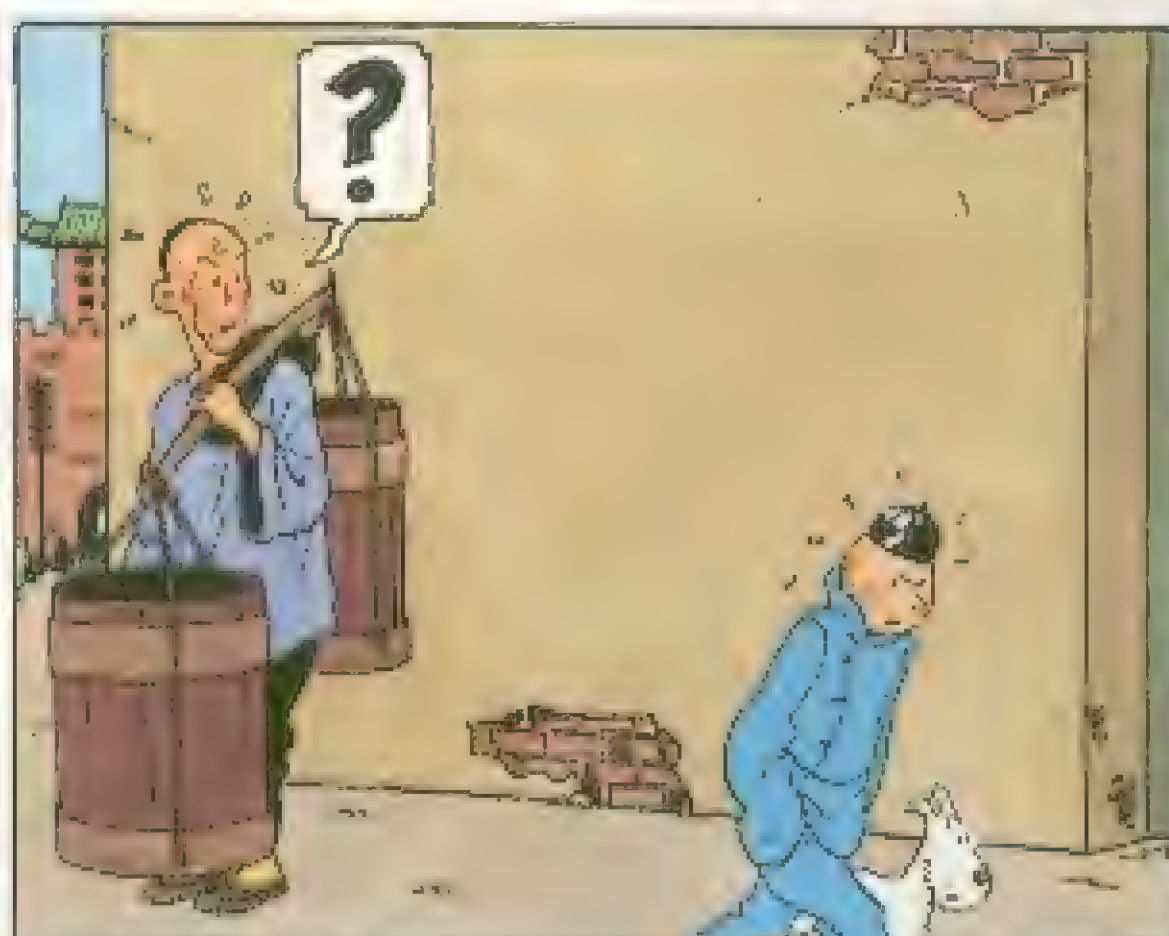
BANG

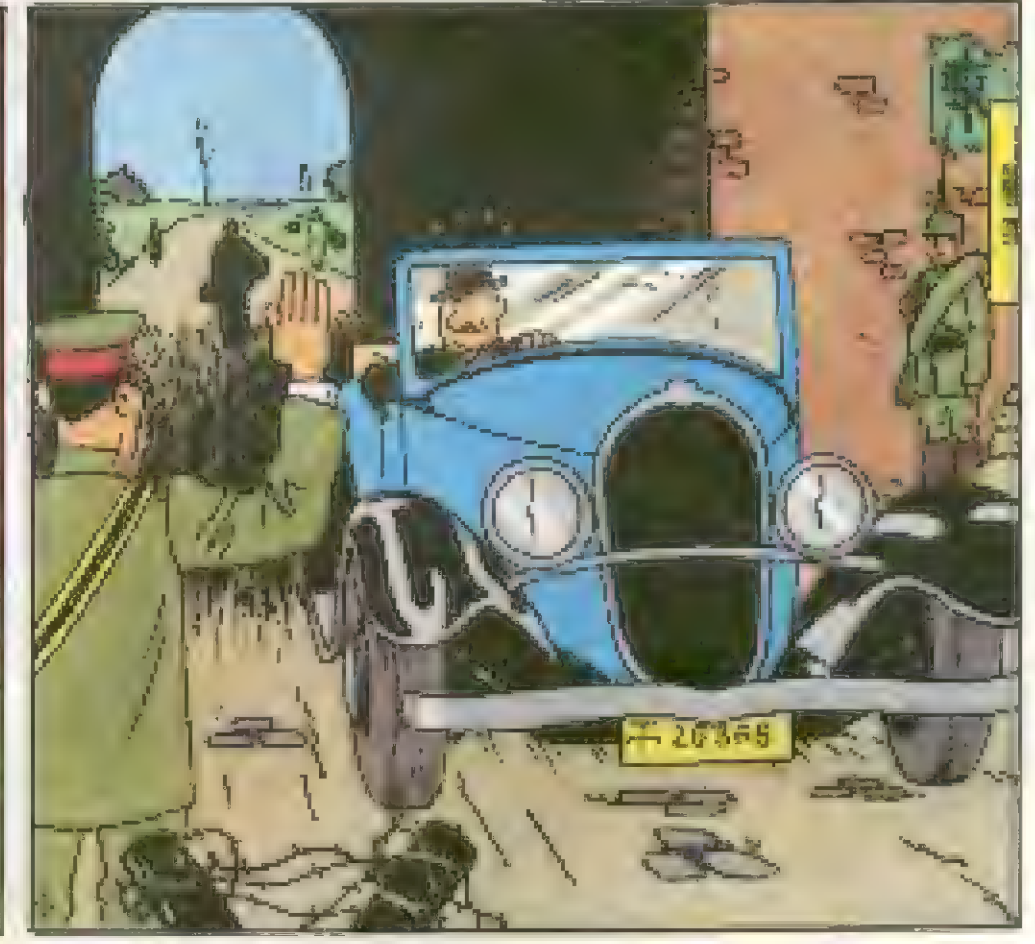
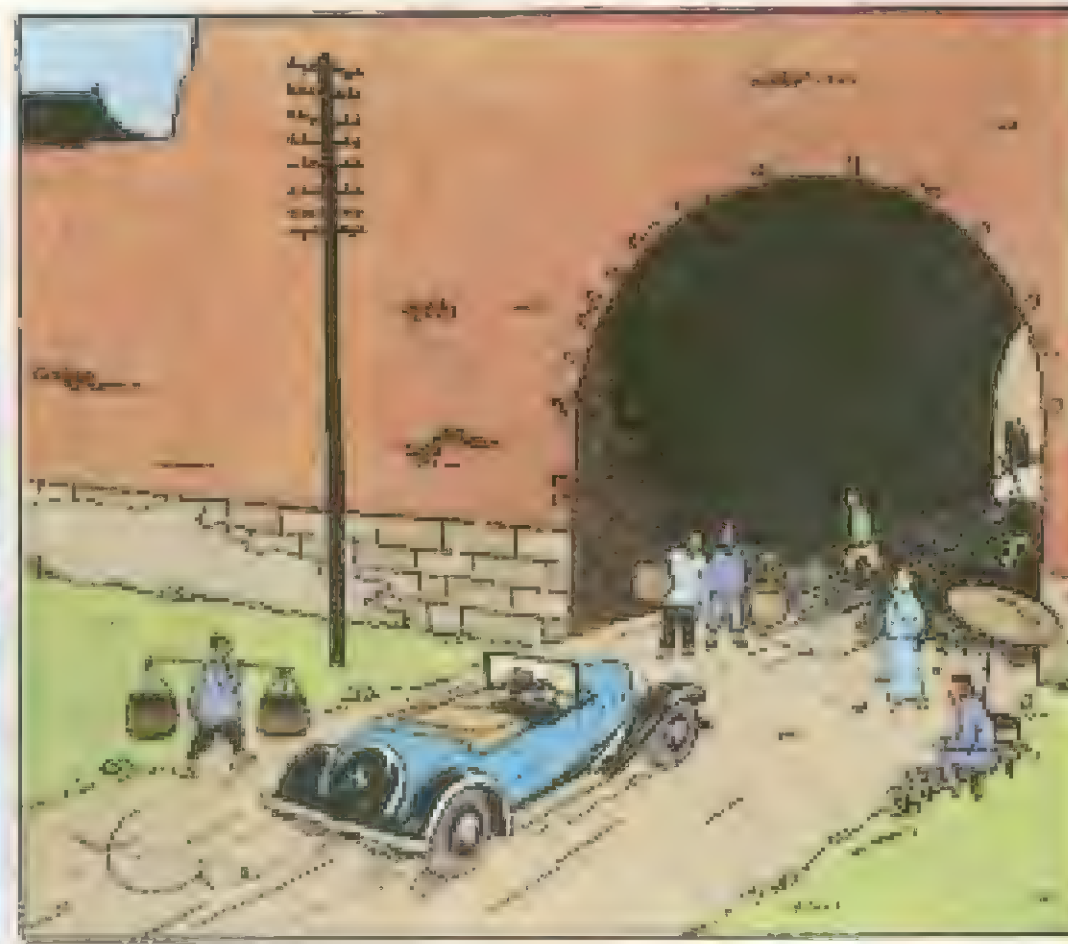
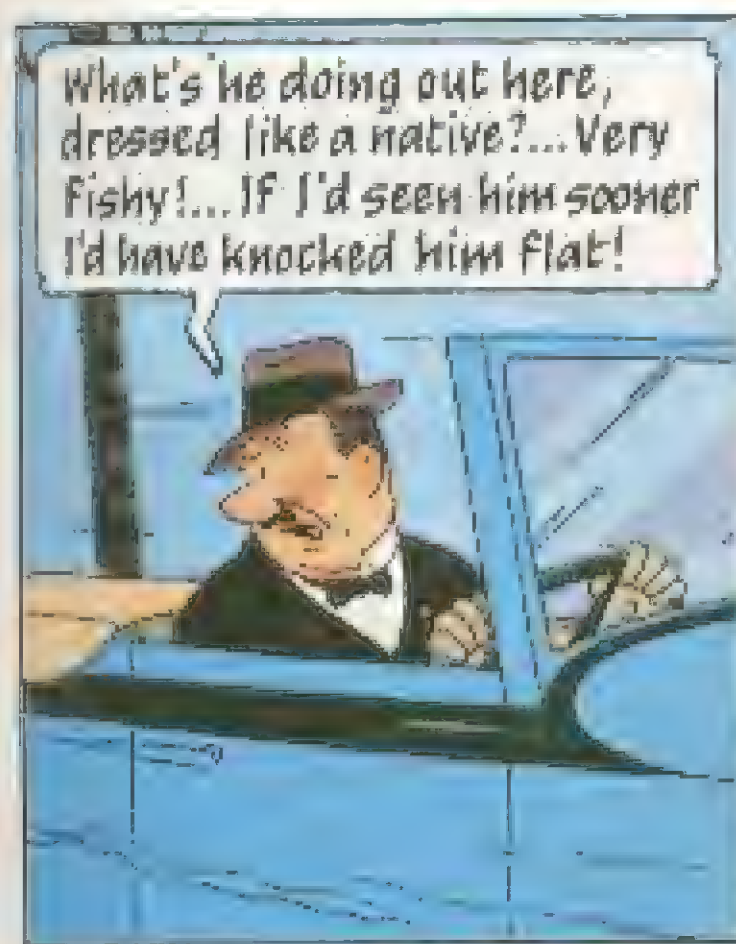
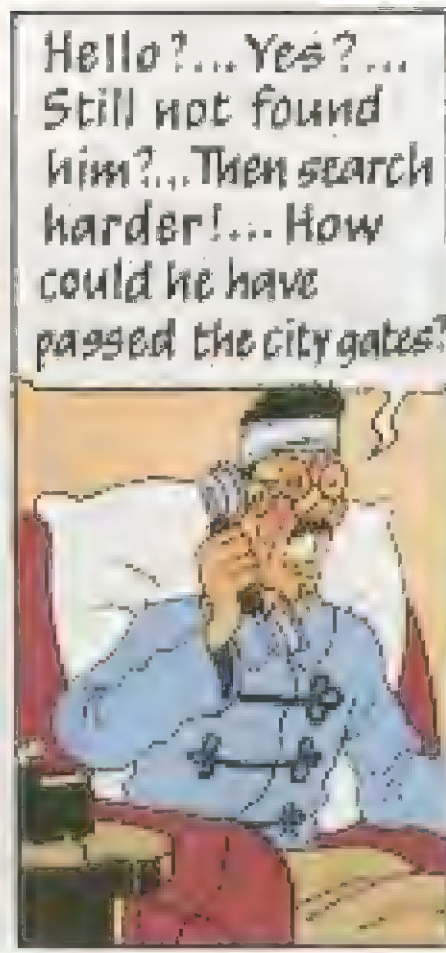


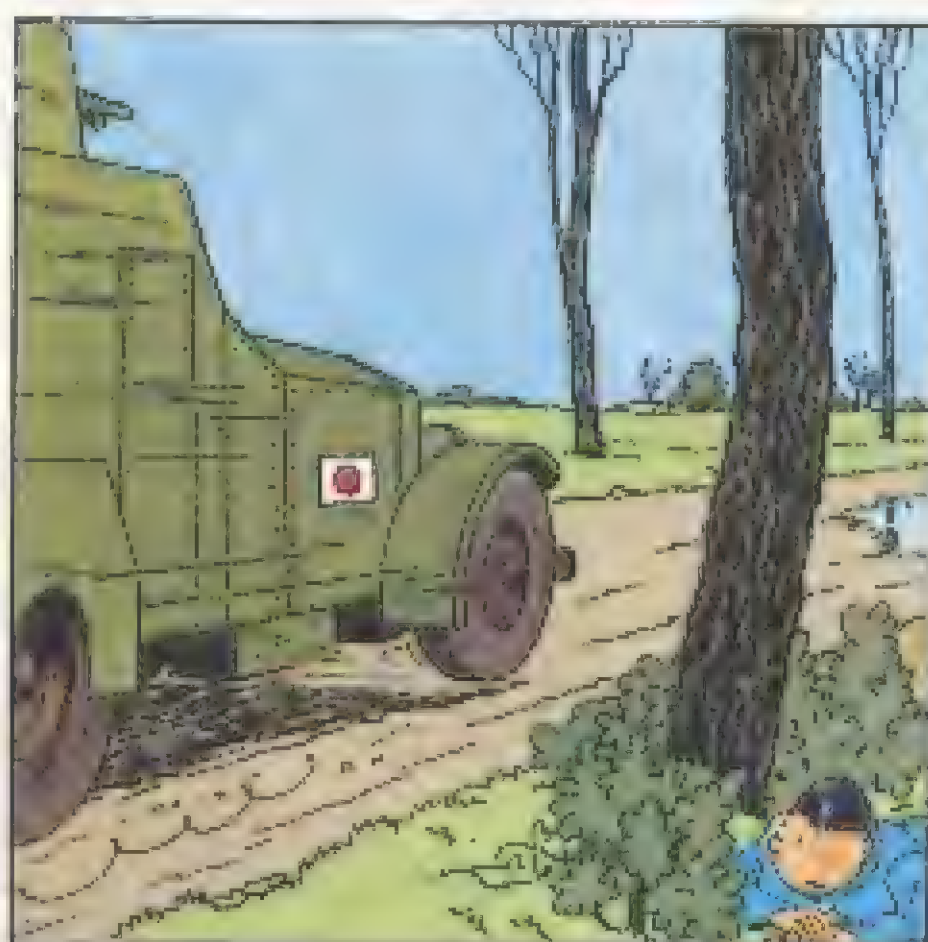
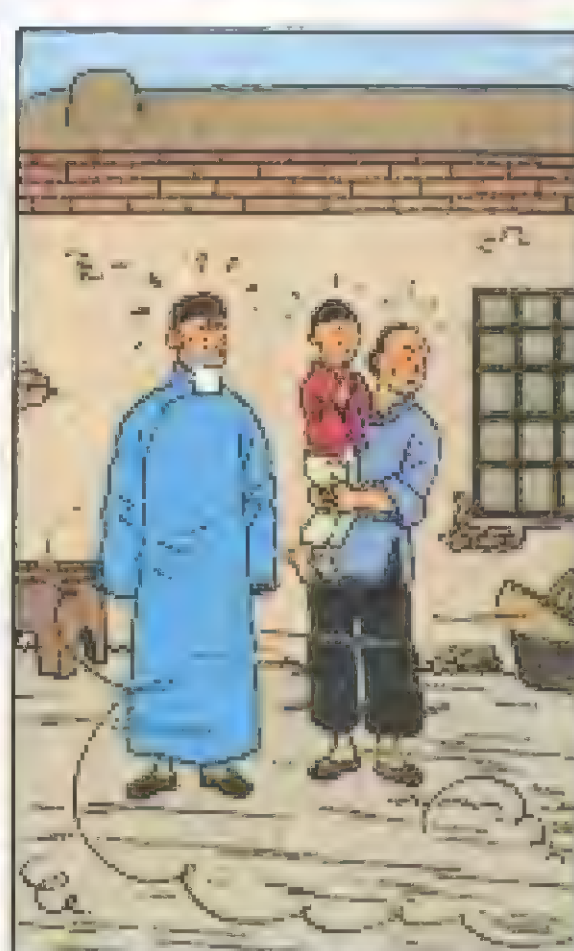
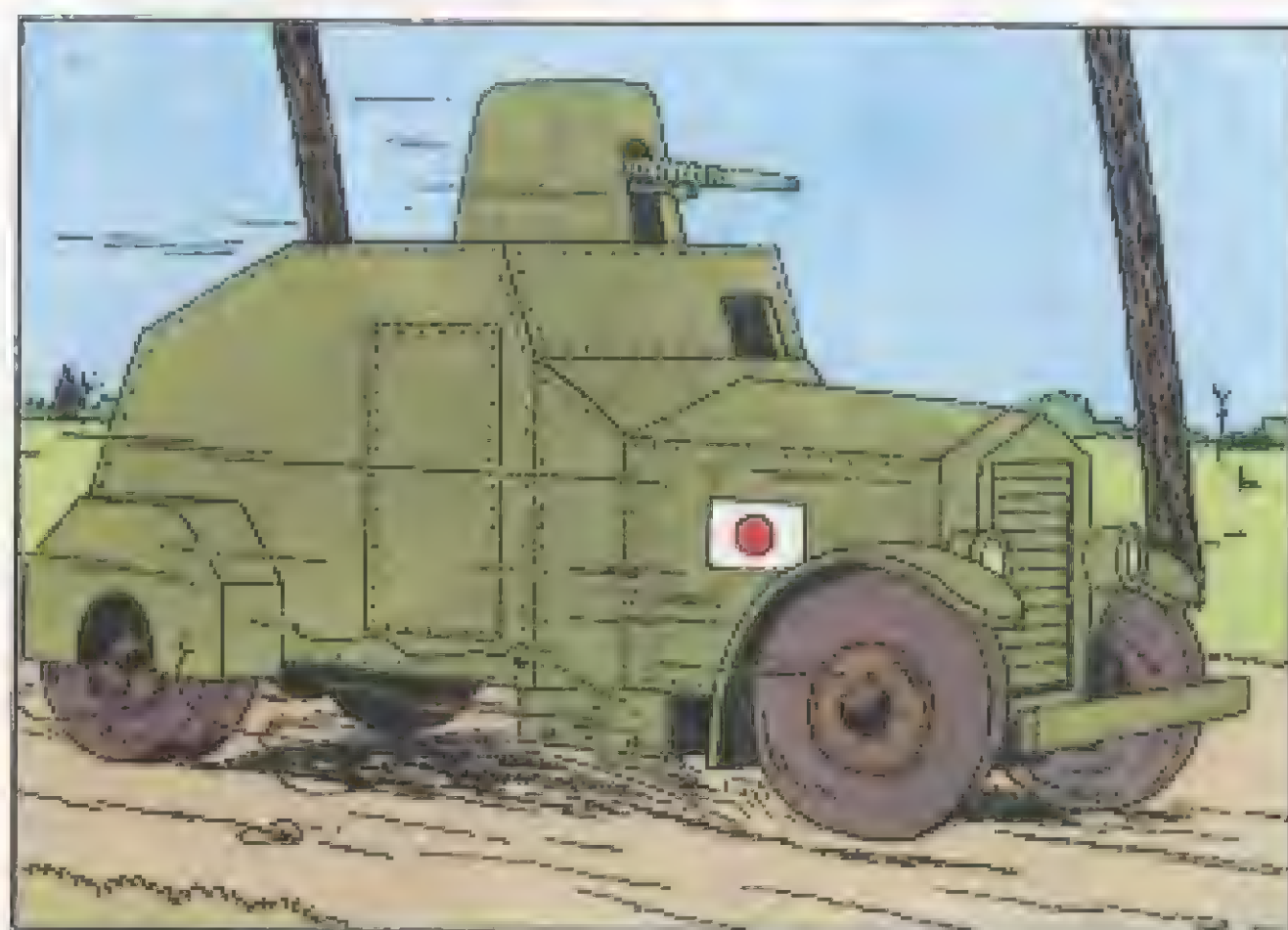
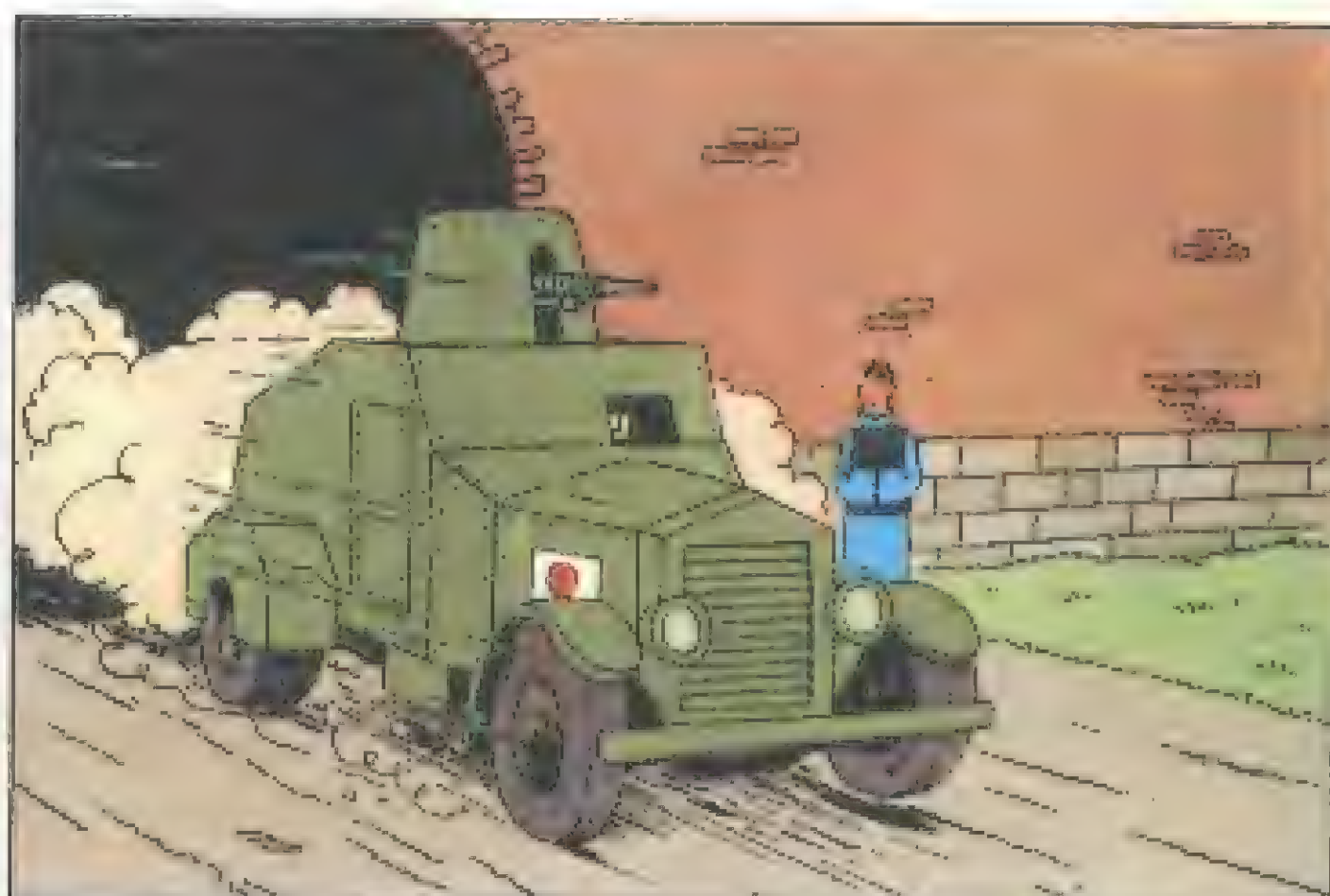


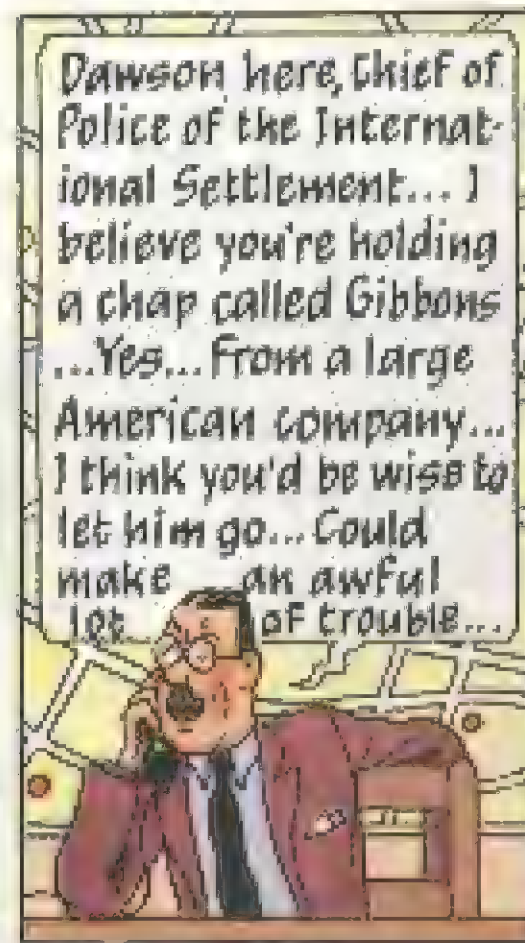
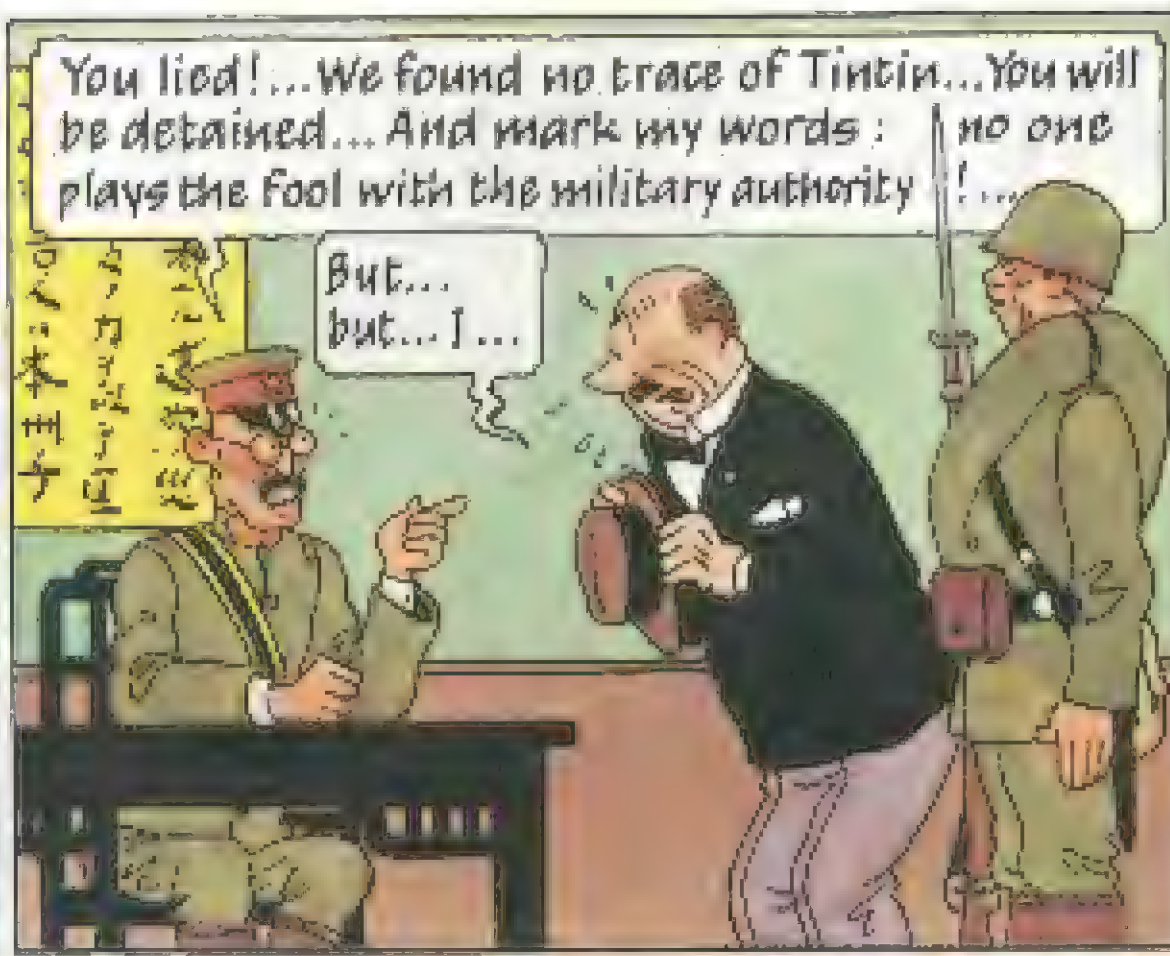


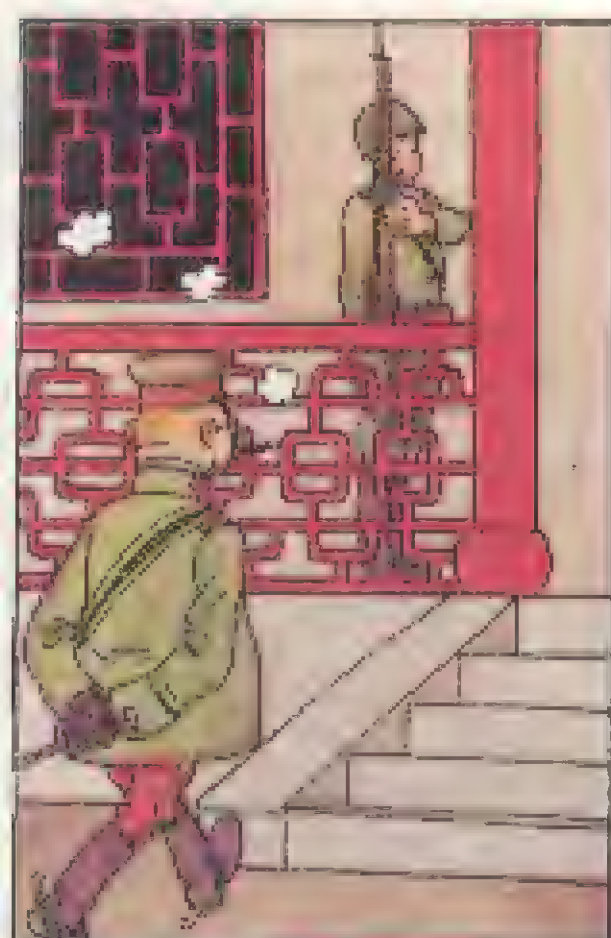
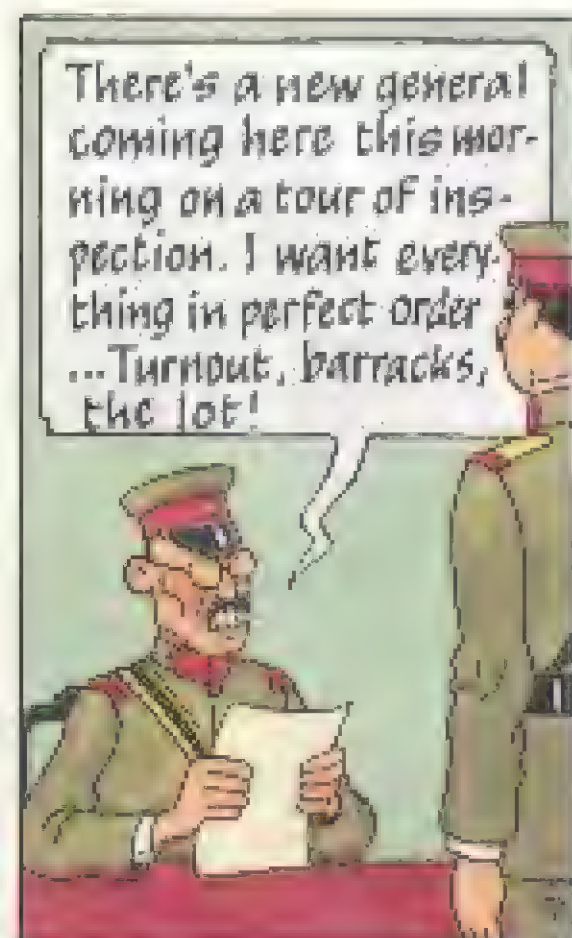














Full of charm, isn't he? And that's our new general!



Major, there's a little man who insists upon seeing you. He claims to be the general.

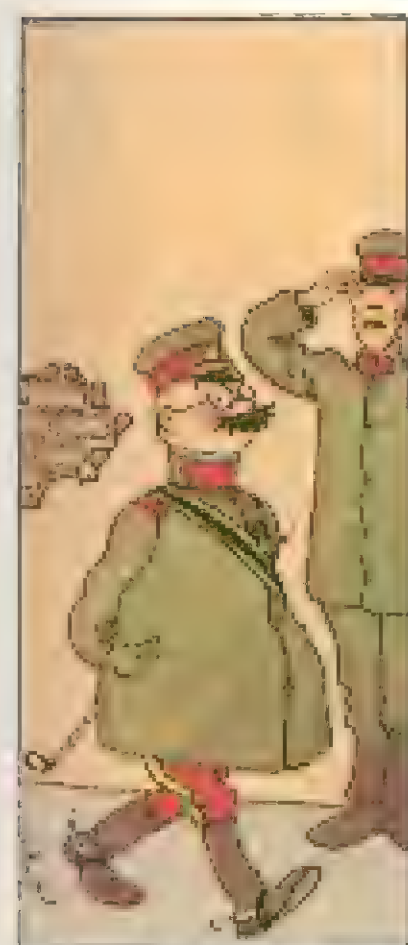
Bring him in. I'll give him 'general'!



But... but the general has just left!



And I'm telling you, block-head, that I'm General Haranochi!... I was attacked on the road by a young Chinese who stripped me of my uniform!!...



No one about?... Good!



Here we go! ...



One ...



Now let's release my false stomach... All right, Snowy?



Now to the International Settlement... And make it snappy!



All's well. We made it!



Halt!... Your papers!



My identity papers? ...I'm afraid I haven't got them with me... But my name's Tintin and I ...

Sorry!... Nothing doing!



But look! You can see I'm a European...

Nothing doing!



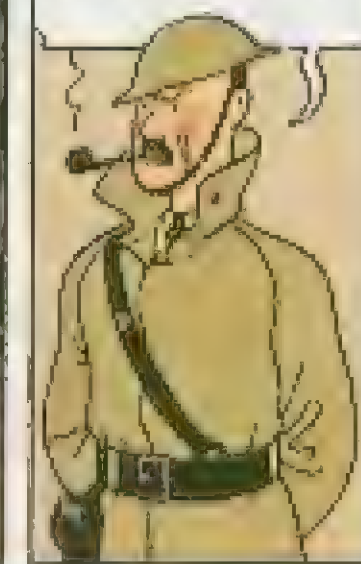
What's the problem?

The boy hasn't any papers, sir...

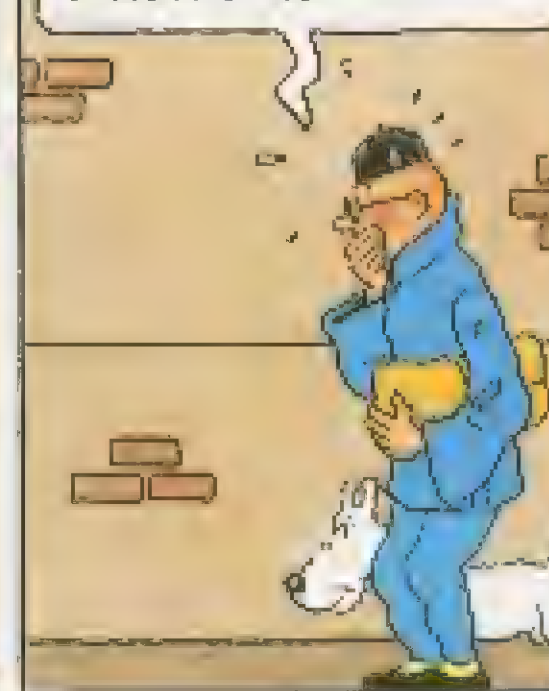
Please...

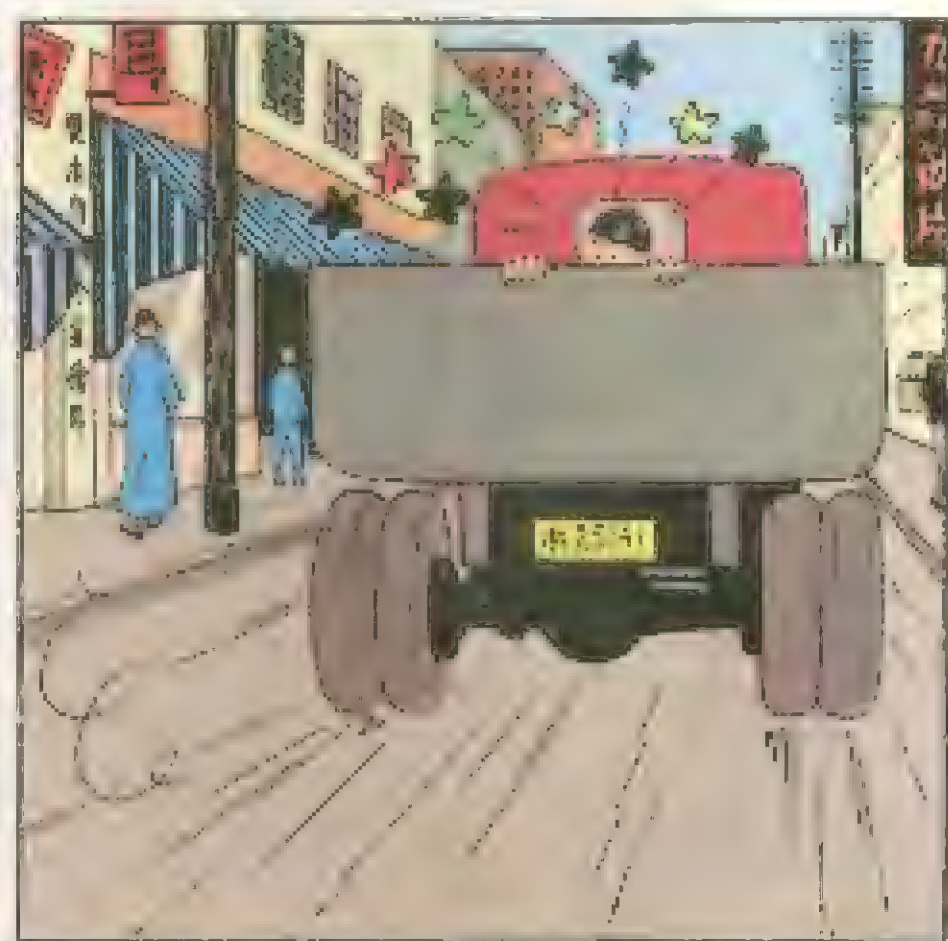
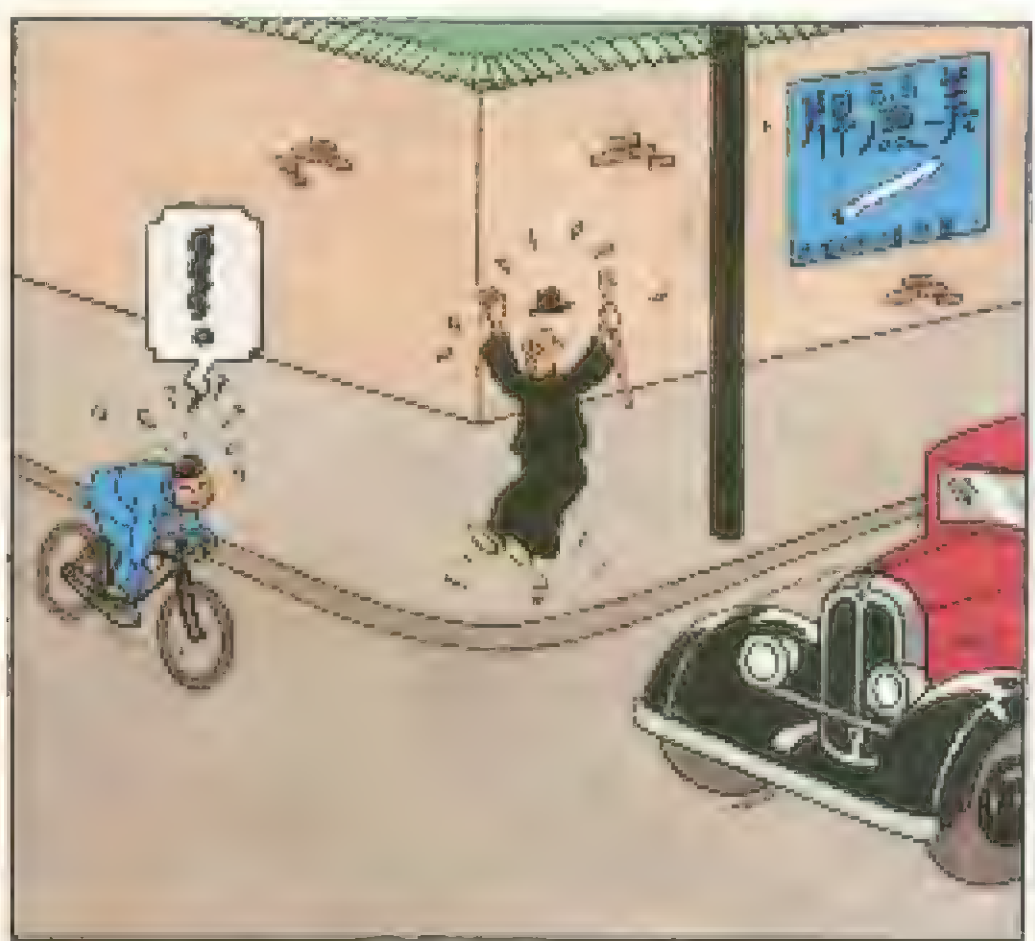
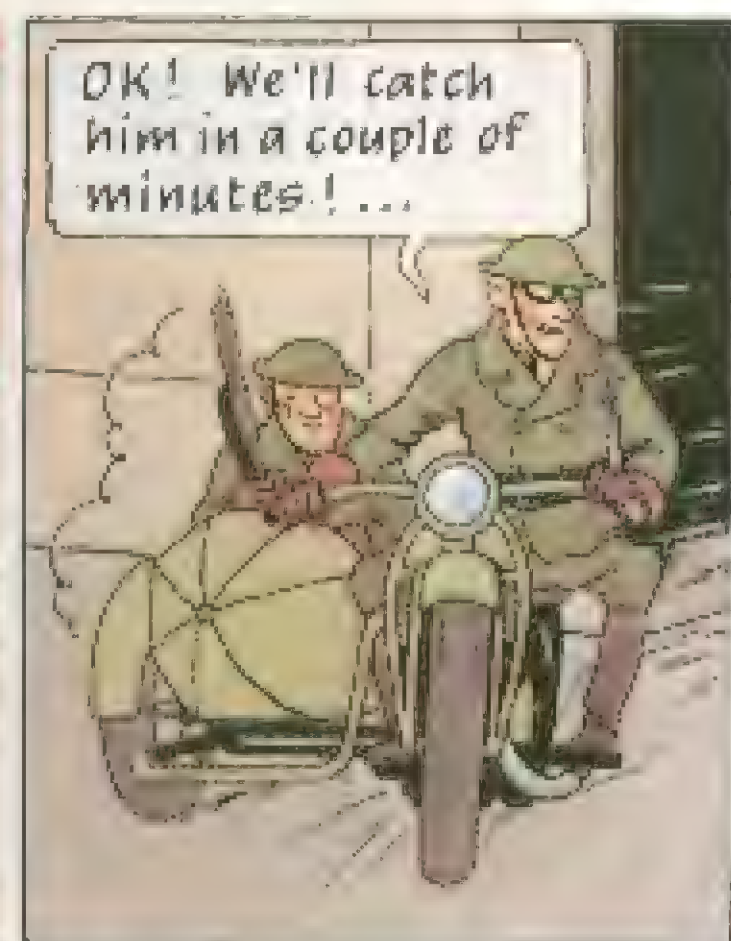
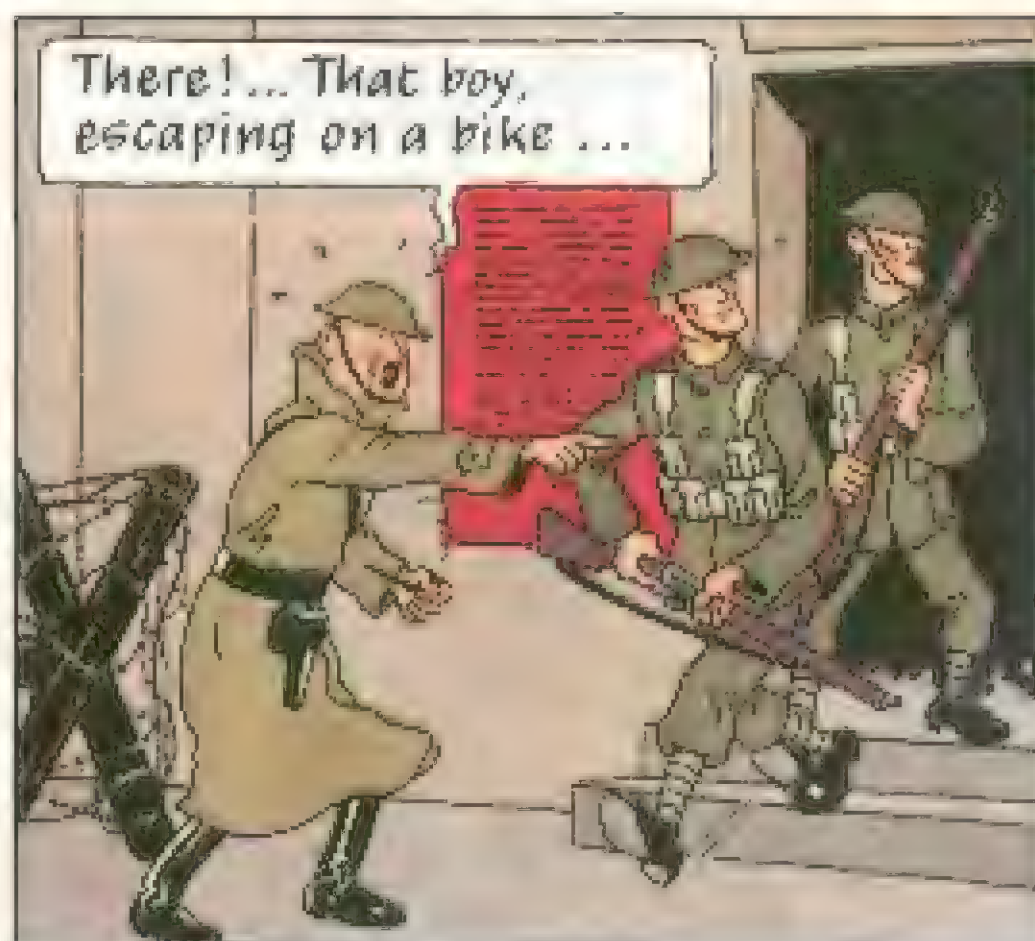
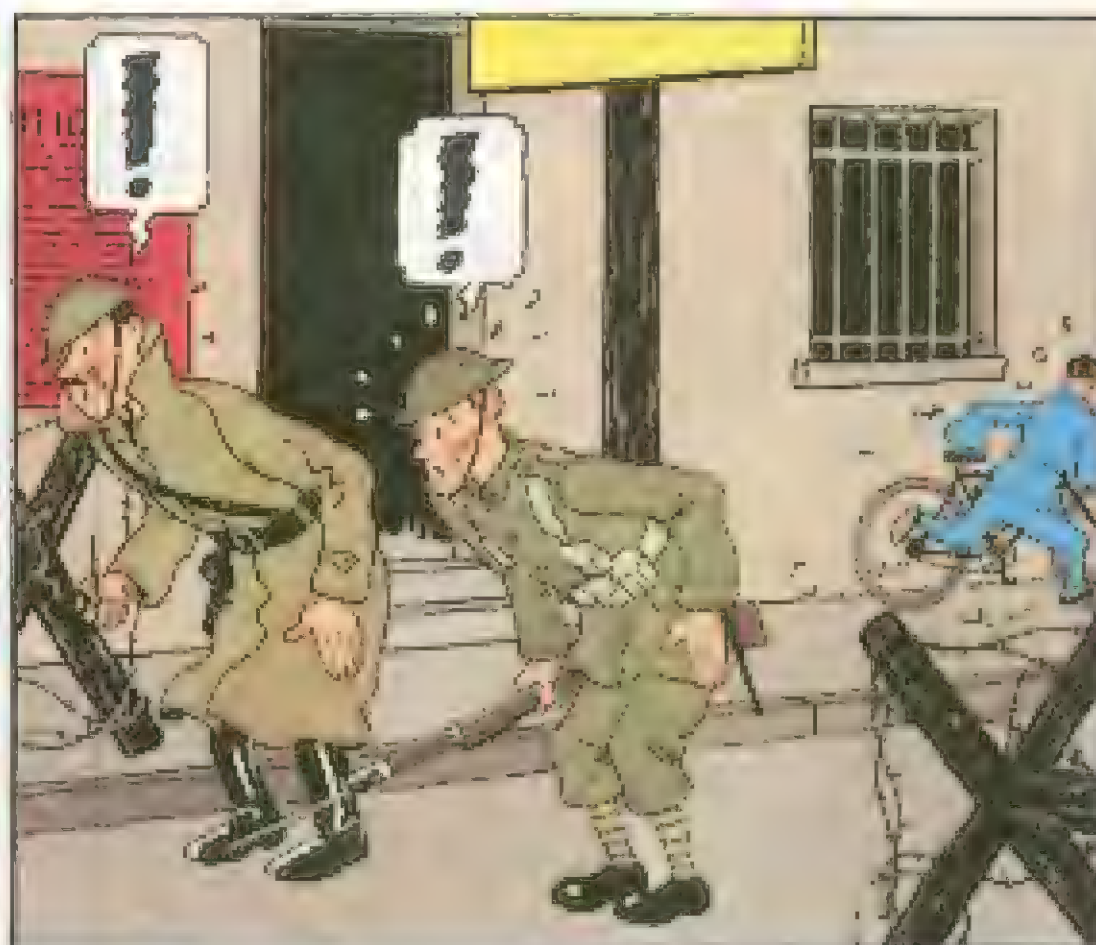


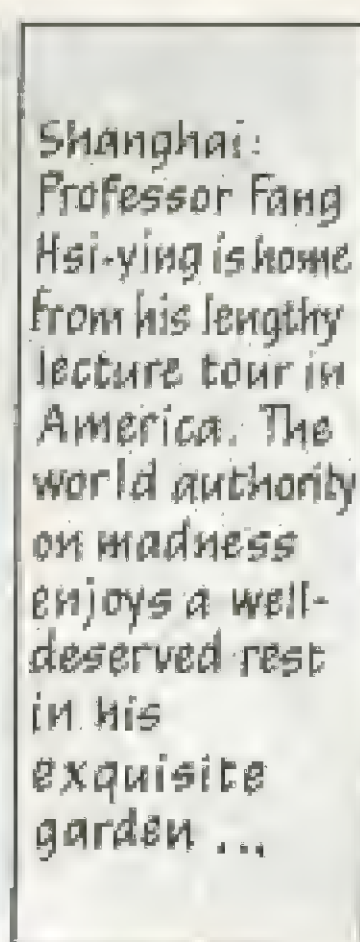
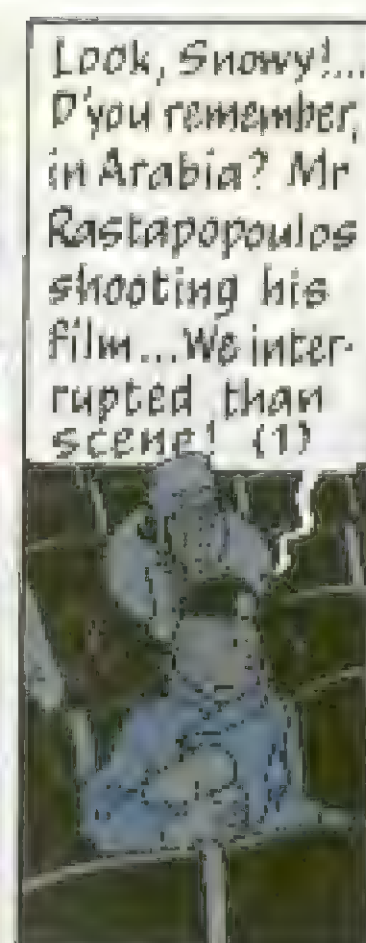
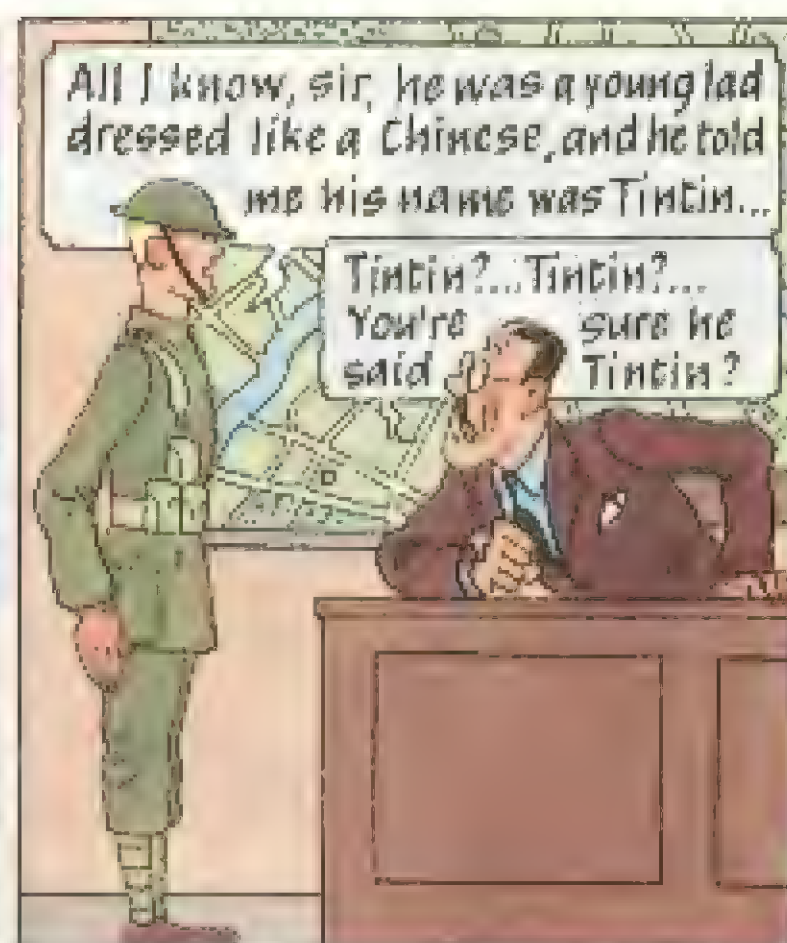
No use arguing, sonny. Must have proper papers to enter the Settlement...

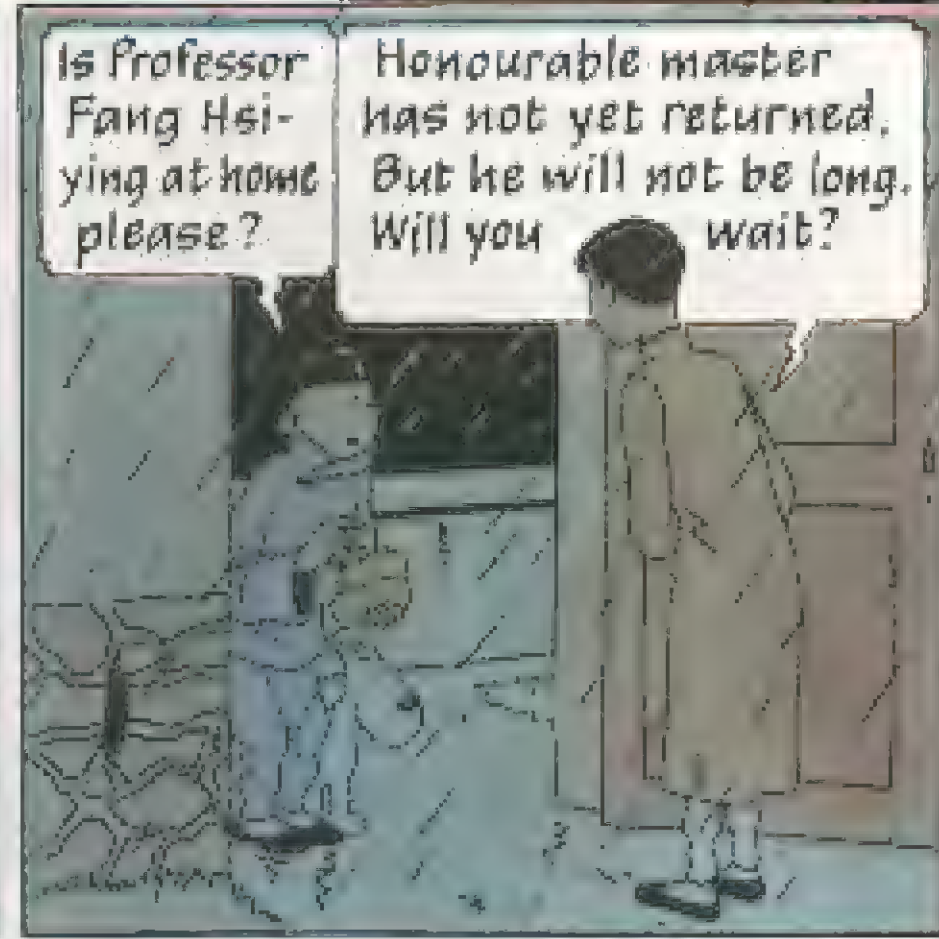


Now what?... Crumbs! A Japanese patrol! I must get in. If I don't ...









Is Professor Fang Hsi-ying at home please?

Honourable master has not yet returned. But he will not be long. Will you wait?



My heart is anxious. Honourable master told me he would be home by ten o'clock. Now it is after midnight...

Do you know where he went?



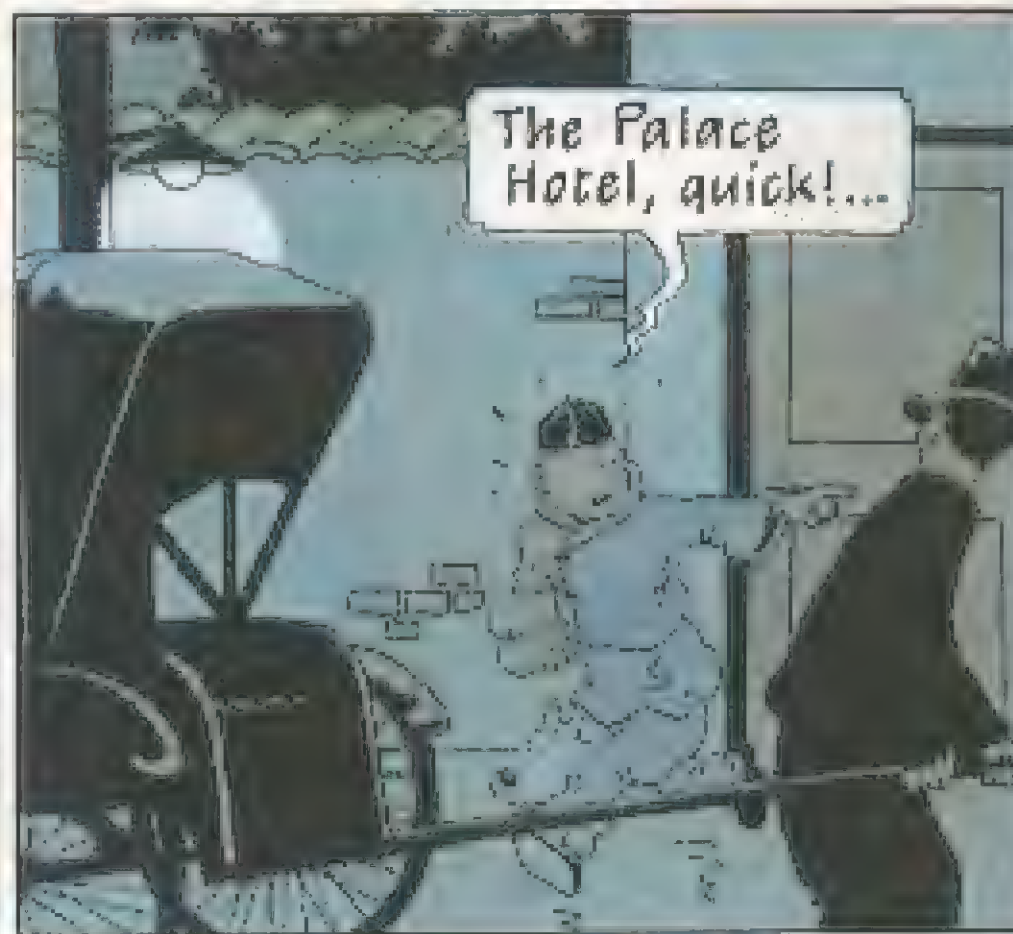
Yes, he went to a reception given in his honour by his friend Mr Liu Ju-lin in the Street of the Purple Mountain.

Then I'll go there...



What? My honourable friend has not reached home?... Strange... He left at about ten o'clock with one of our guests, Mr Rastapopoulos.

Rastapopoulos, here?... Where is he staying?



The Palace Hotel, quick!...

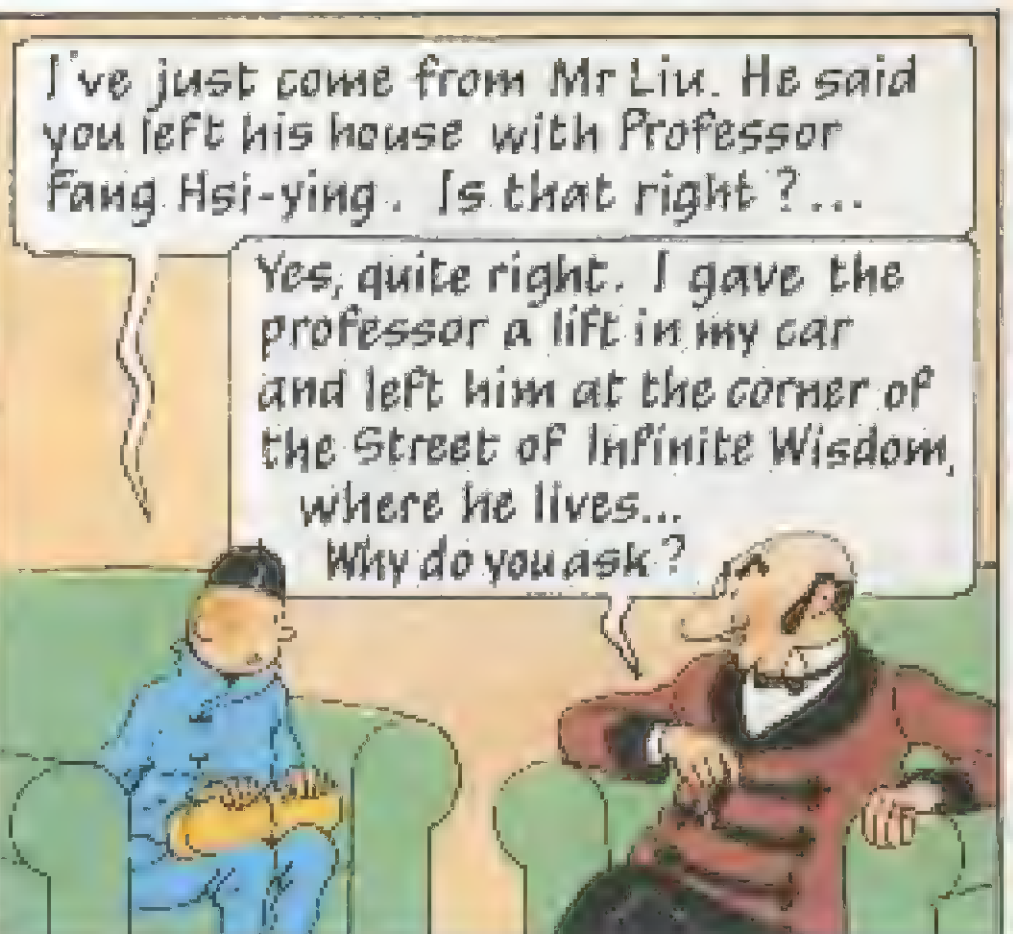


Come in!



Good evening, Mr Rastapopoulos!

Tintin! What a pleasant surprise!...



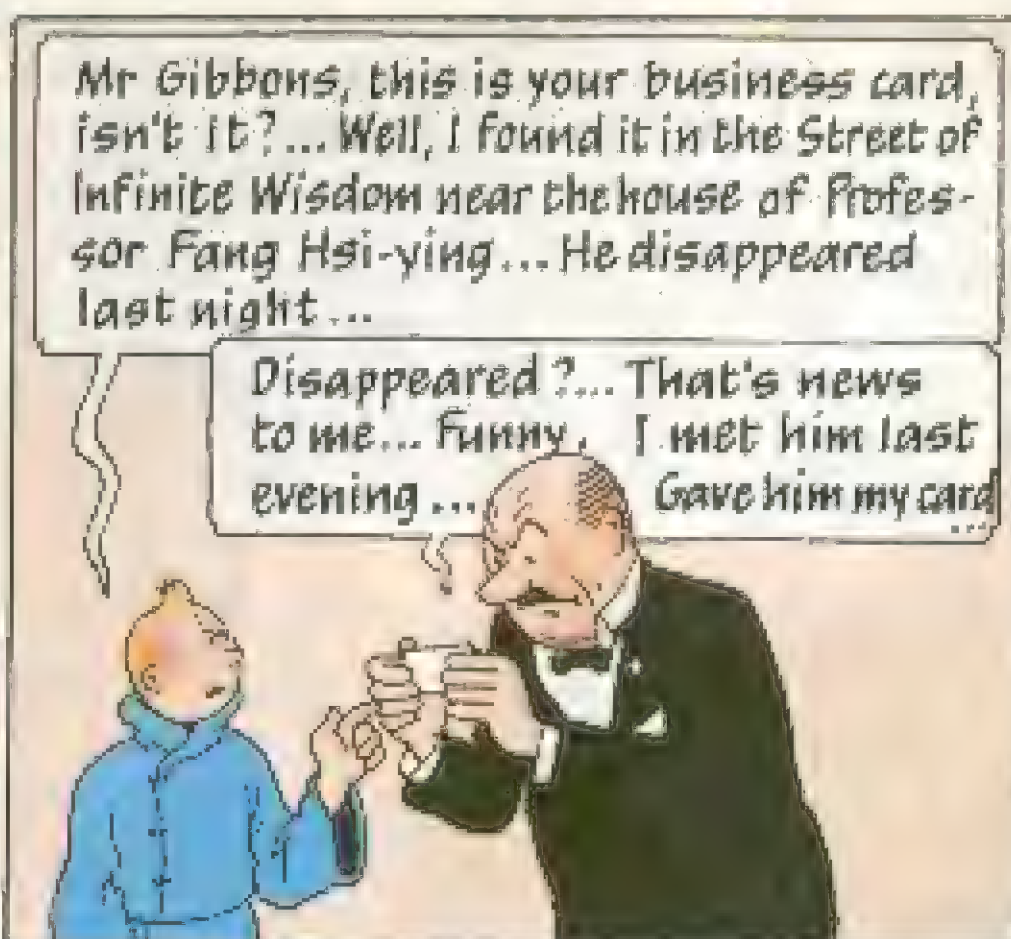
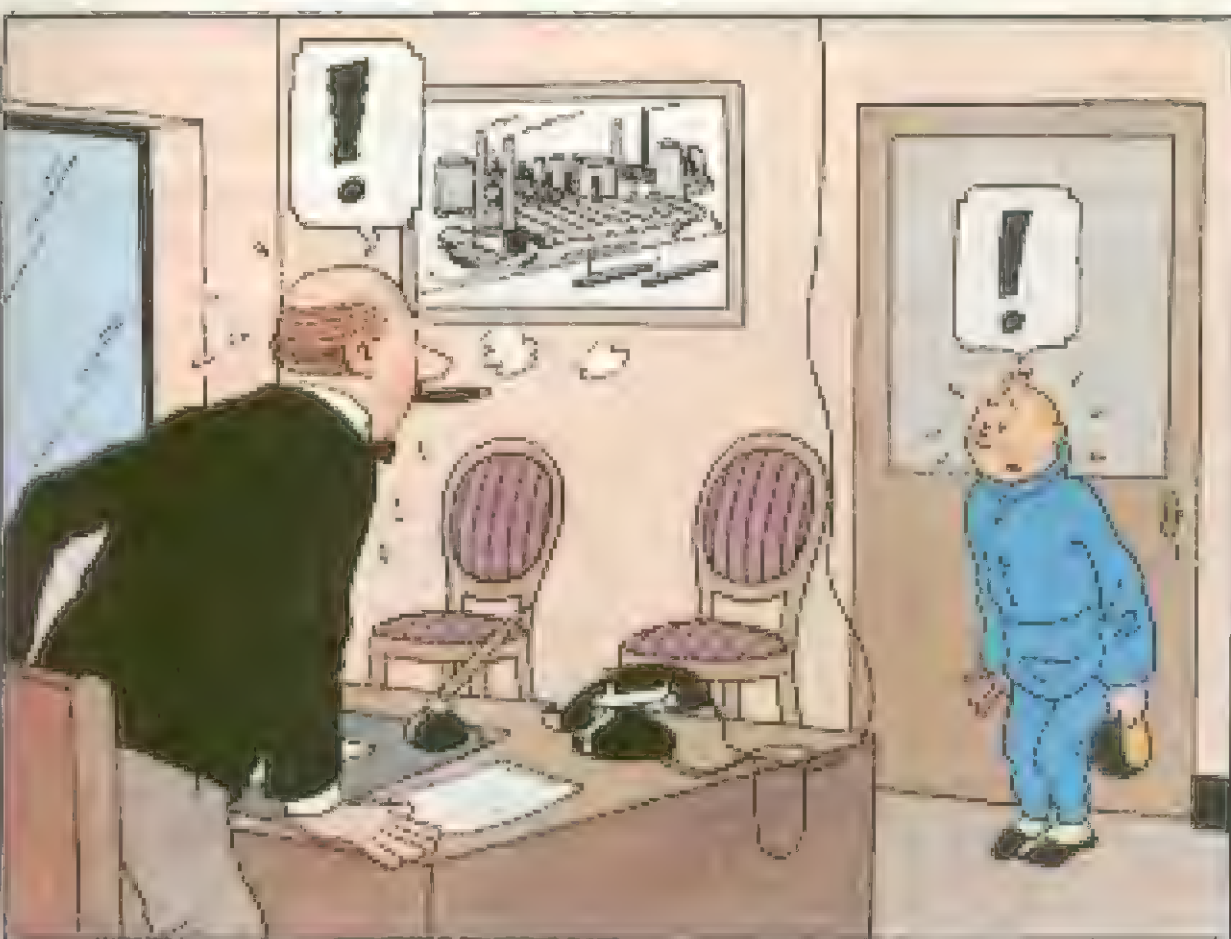
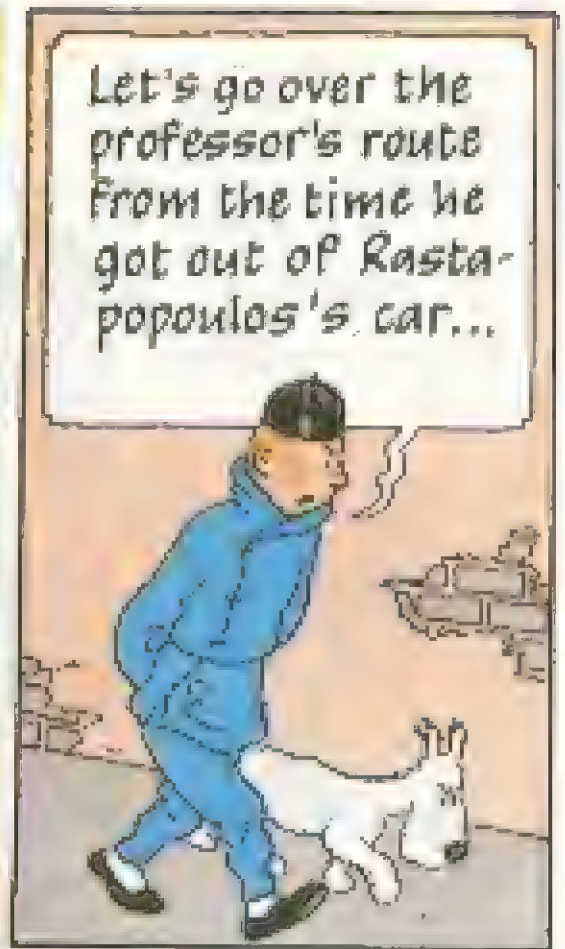
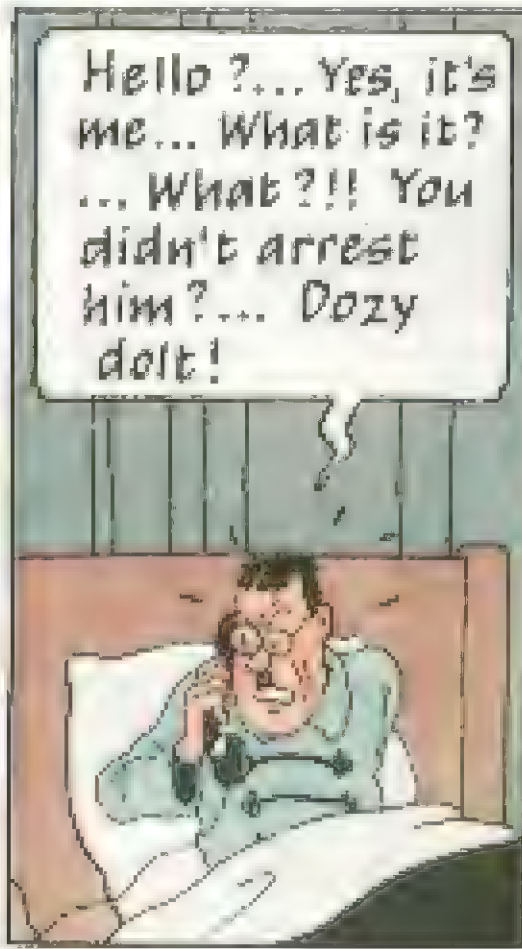
I've just come from Mr Liu. He said you left his house with Professor Fang Hsi-ying. Is that right?...

Yes, quite right. I gave the professor a lift in my car and left him at the corner of the Street of Infinite Wisdom, where he lives... Why do you ask?



Professor Fang Hsi-ying never got home.

Didn't get home?... But it's only a few steps to his door from the place where I dropped him...





Oh, it is you, sir!... Come, please!... I have just received a letter from Honourable Master!

A letter?

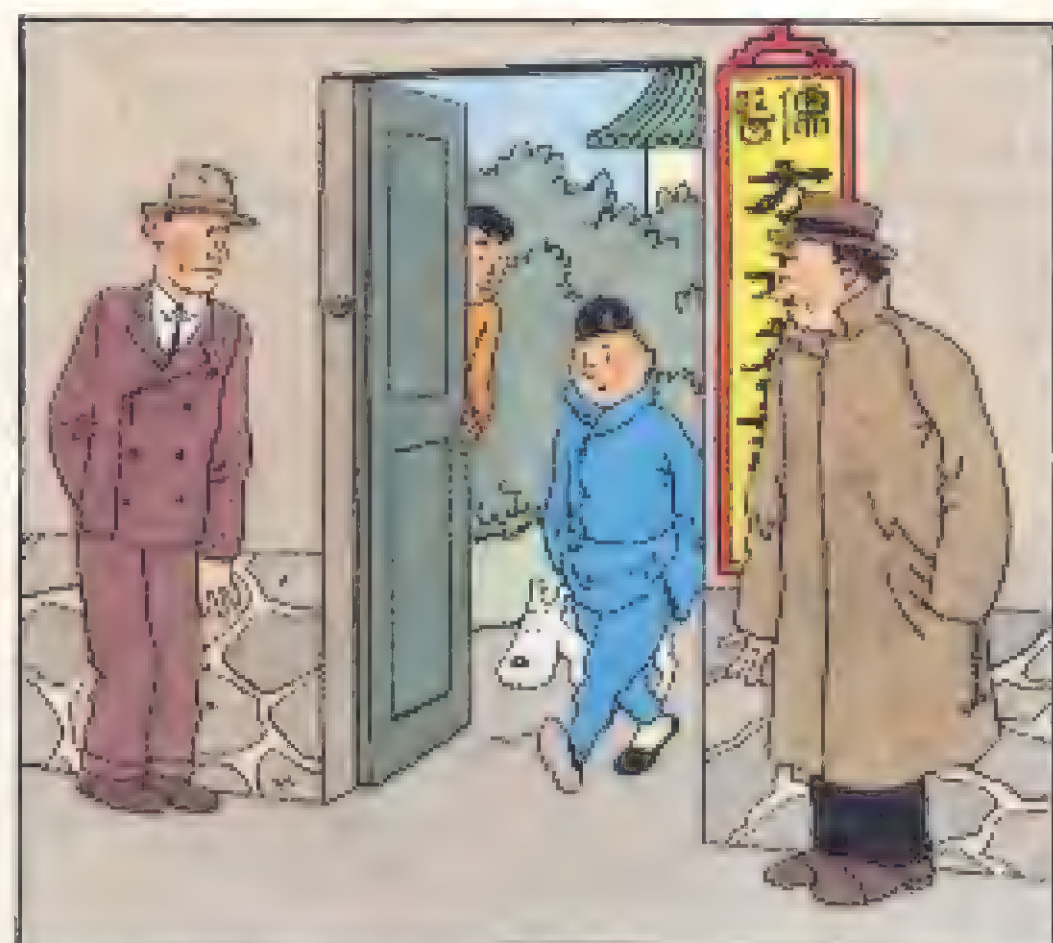


Dear Chen,
I have been seized by Chinese gangsters demanding a ransom of 50,000 dollars. It is essential the police do not look for them. If they are alarmed they will kill me.

The ransom is to be left, within a fortnight, at the old temple about an hour's journey from Hukow on the right bank of the Yangtze Kiang. As I do not possess sufficient money



I'm going to look for the Professor... While I'm gone will you look after this package? ... Please, take the greatest care of it...



OK, Chief, we got Tintin for you.

Well done, Richards... Bring him in...



I'd like to know why you've arrested me...

Just a second, old man, and you'll be in the picture...



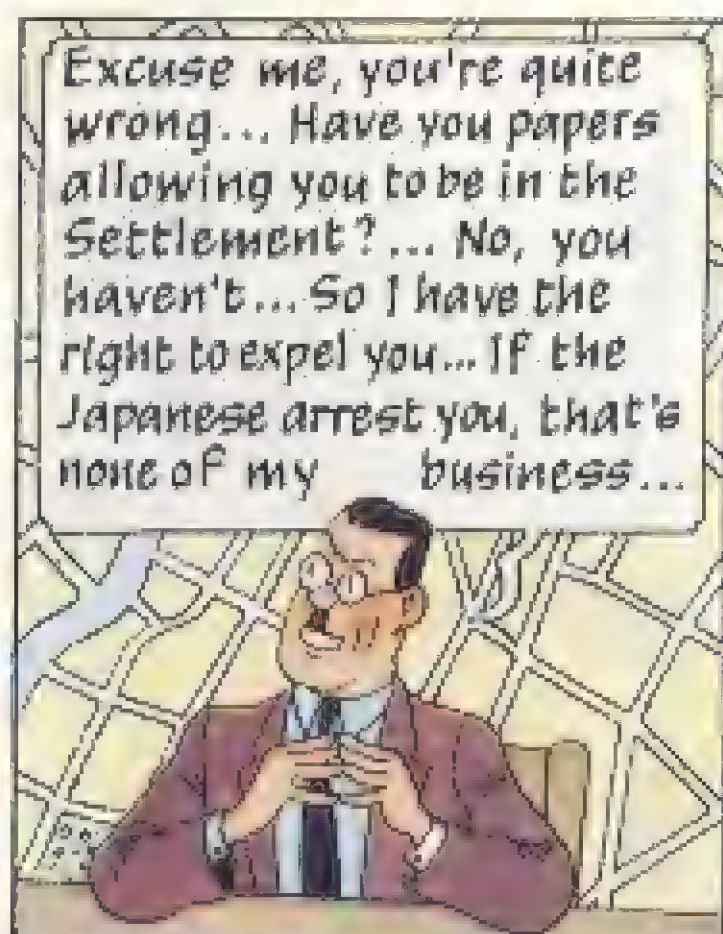
Hello?... Japanese border post?... Is that you, Major?... Dawson here...



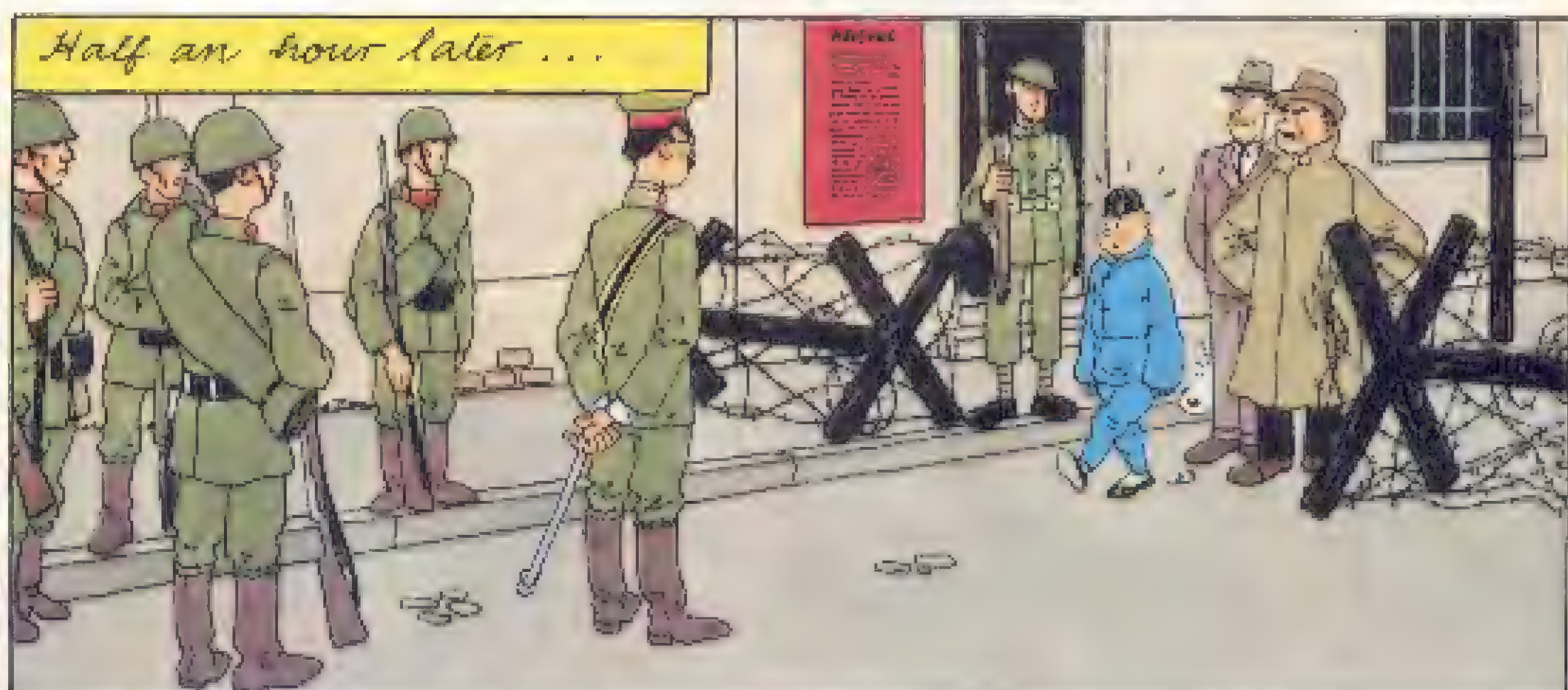
Yes...yes...Tintin!... You arrested him?... Congratulations!... Yes, that's right... Excellent...In half an hour... Goodbye...



It's disgraceful!...I'm on international territory here and you have no right to hand me over to the Japanese!...



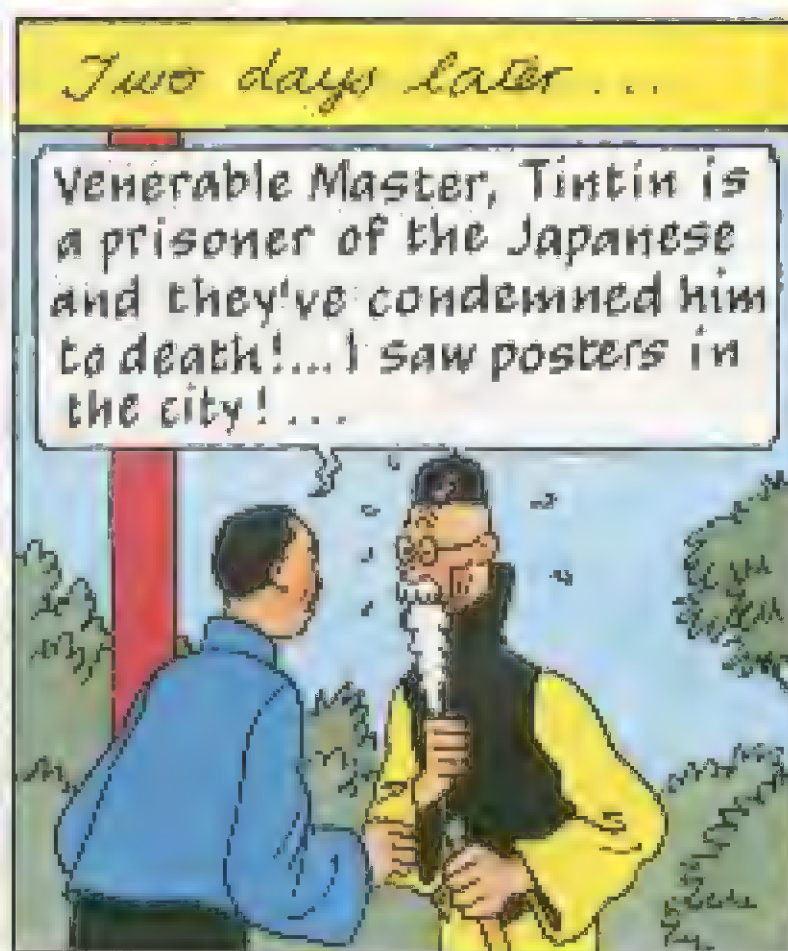
Excuse me, you're quite wrong... Have you papers allowing you to be in the Settlement?... No, you haven't... So I have the right to expel you... If the Japanese arrest you, that's none of my business...



Half an hour later...

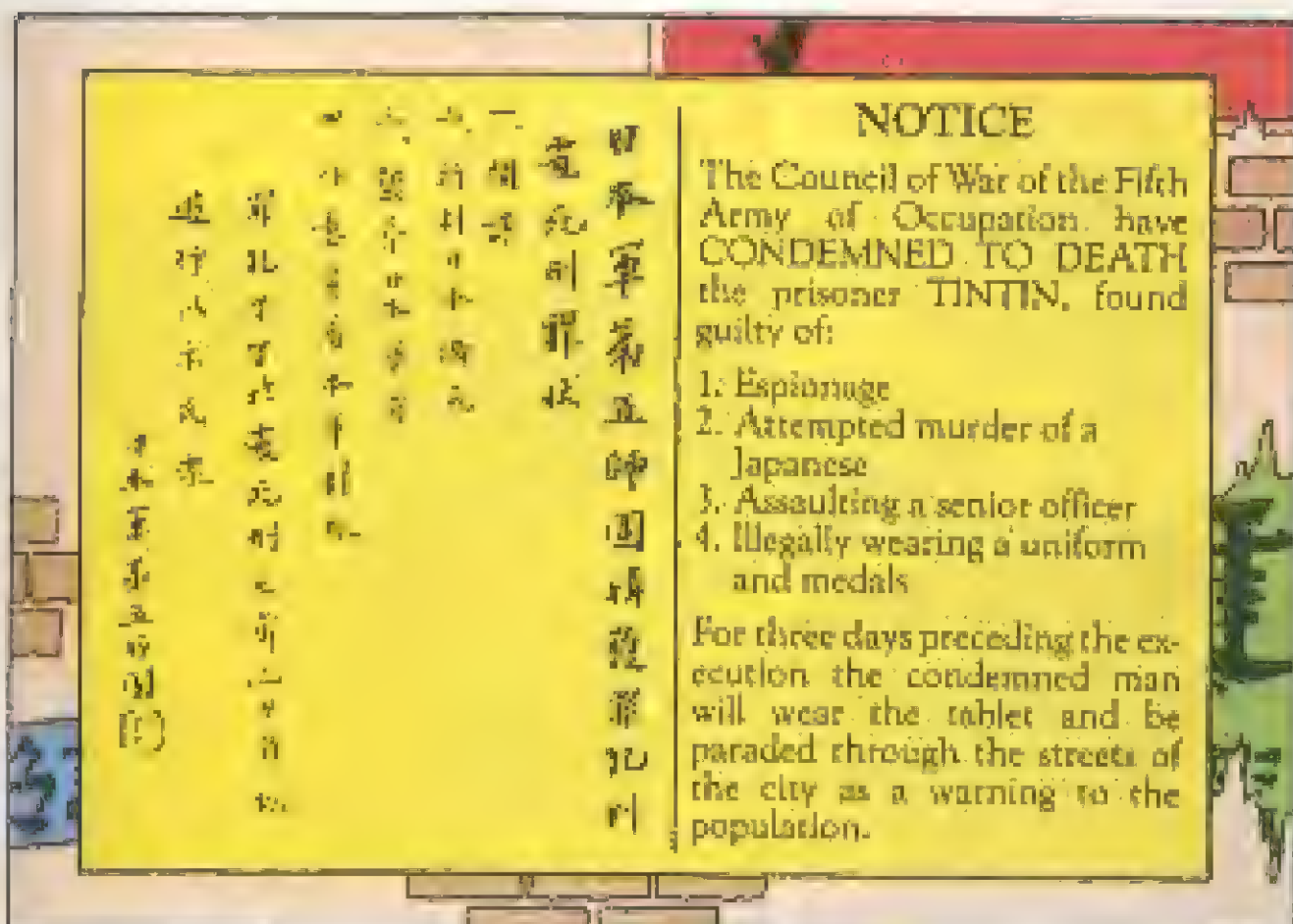


Hello... yes... Tintin! ... You got him?... His trial begins tomorrow?... How long will it last?... Two days?... Good!



Two days later...

Venerable Master, Tintin is a prisoner of the Japanese and they've condemned him to death!... I saw posters in the city!...

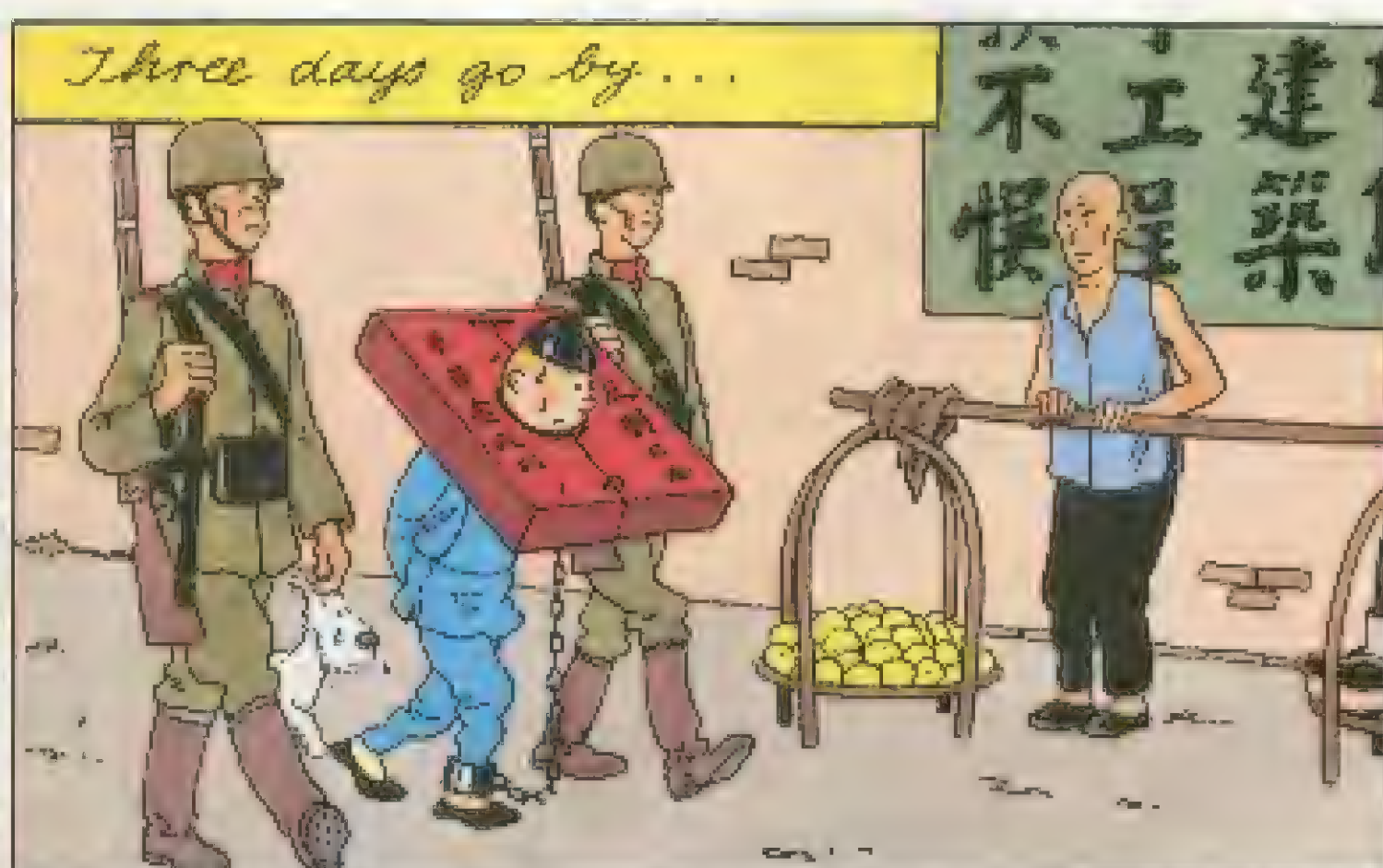


NOTICE

The Council of War of the Fifth Army of Occupation, have CONDEMNED TO DEATH the prisoner TINTIN, found guilty of:

1. Espionage
2. Attempted murder of a Japanese
3. Assaulting a senior officer
4. Illegally wearing a uniform and medals

For three days preceding the execution the condemned man will wear the tablet and be paraded through the streets of the city as a warning to the population.



Three days go by...



Tomorrow at dawn Tintin ends his career... I can't see any way to get myself out of this one...



You really think he'll accept?... Seriously?



Now what do they want?



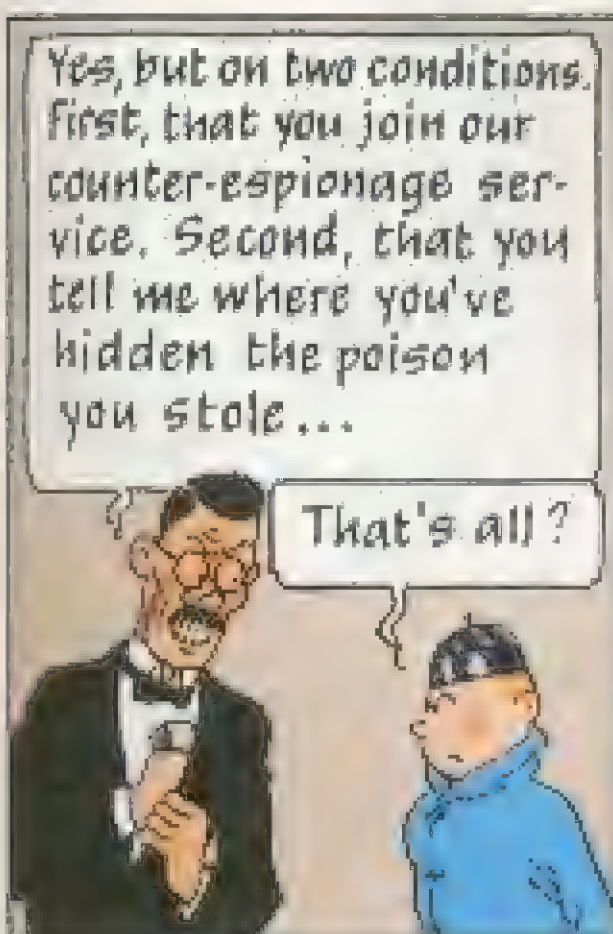
Hello, dear friend...

Mitsuhirato!



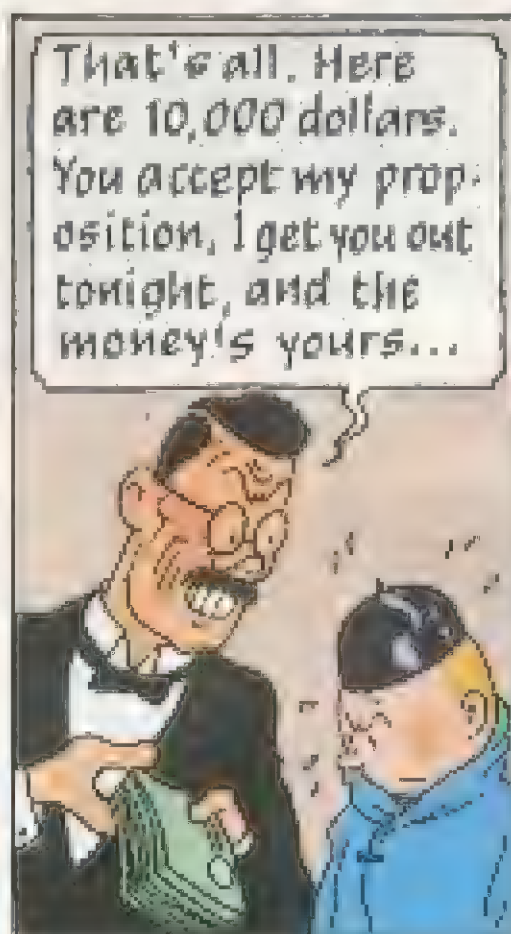
I come to you as a friend, dear Tintin... No, no I'm not joking. I've come to offer you your freedom!

Really?



Yes, but on two conditions. First, that you join our counter-espionage service. Second, that you tell me where you've hidden the poison you stole...

That's all?

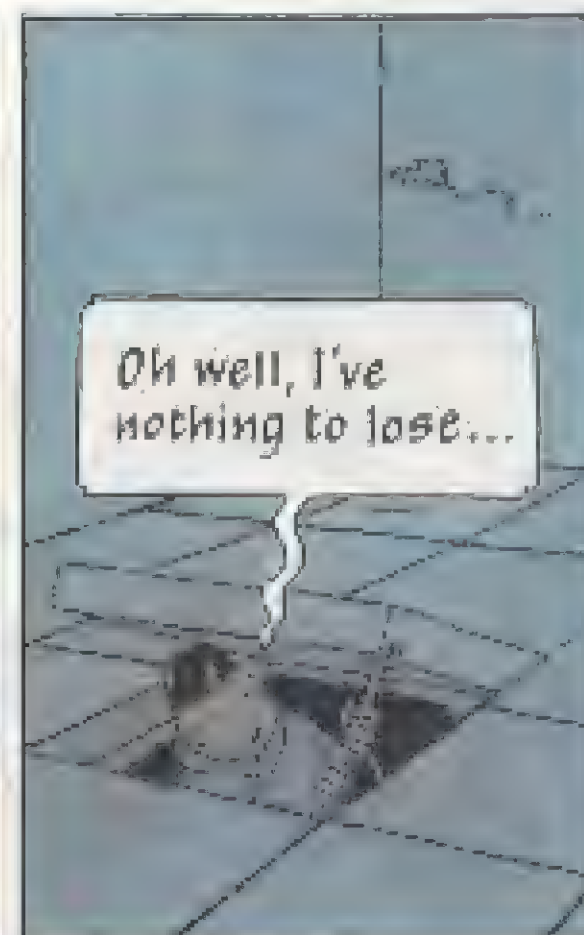
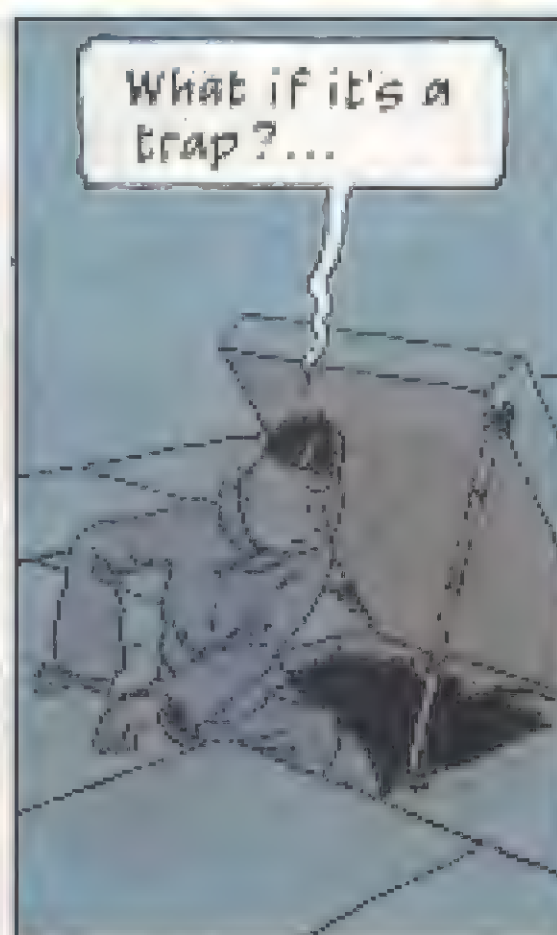
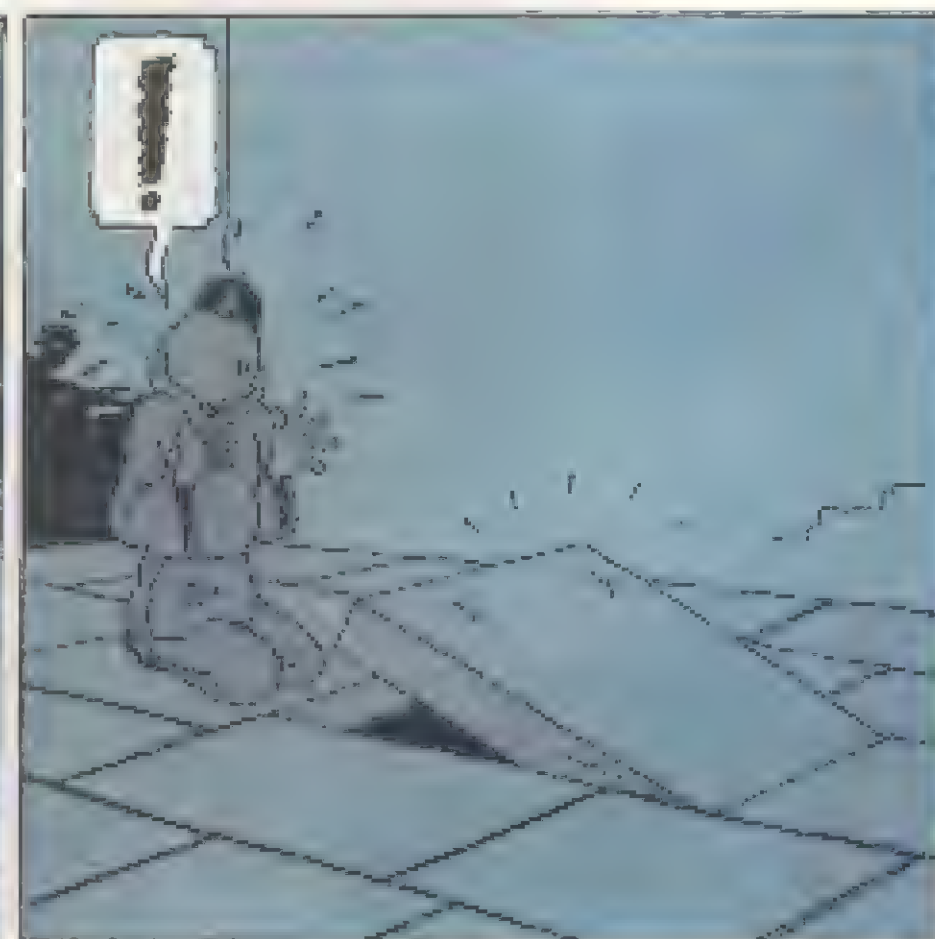
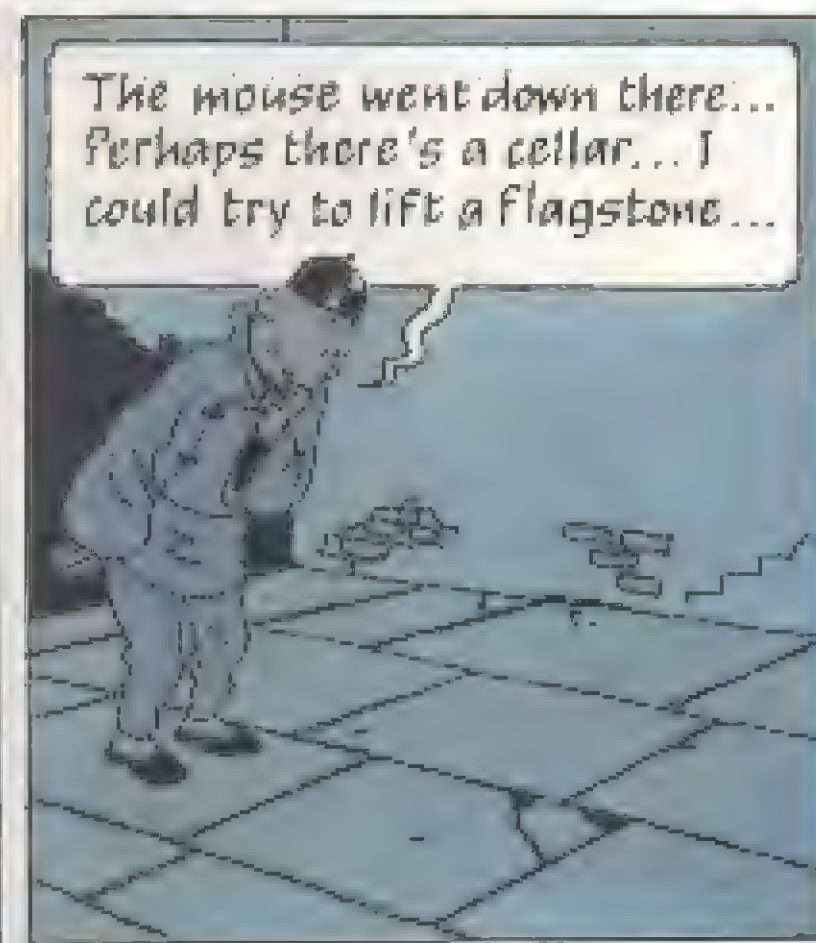
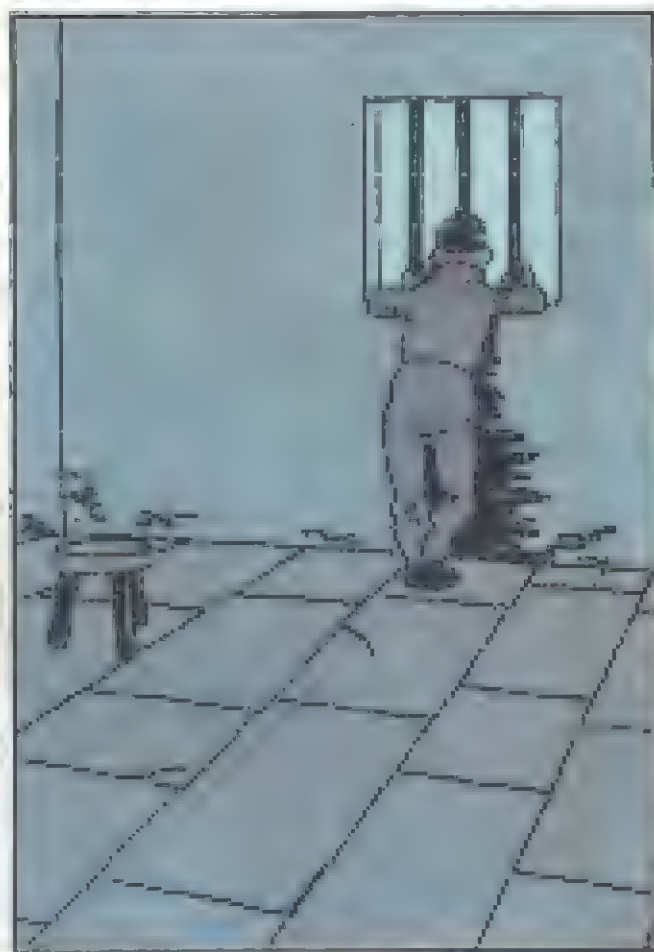


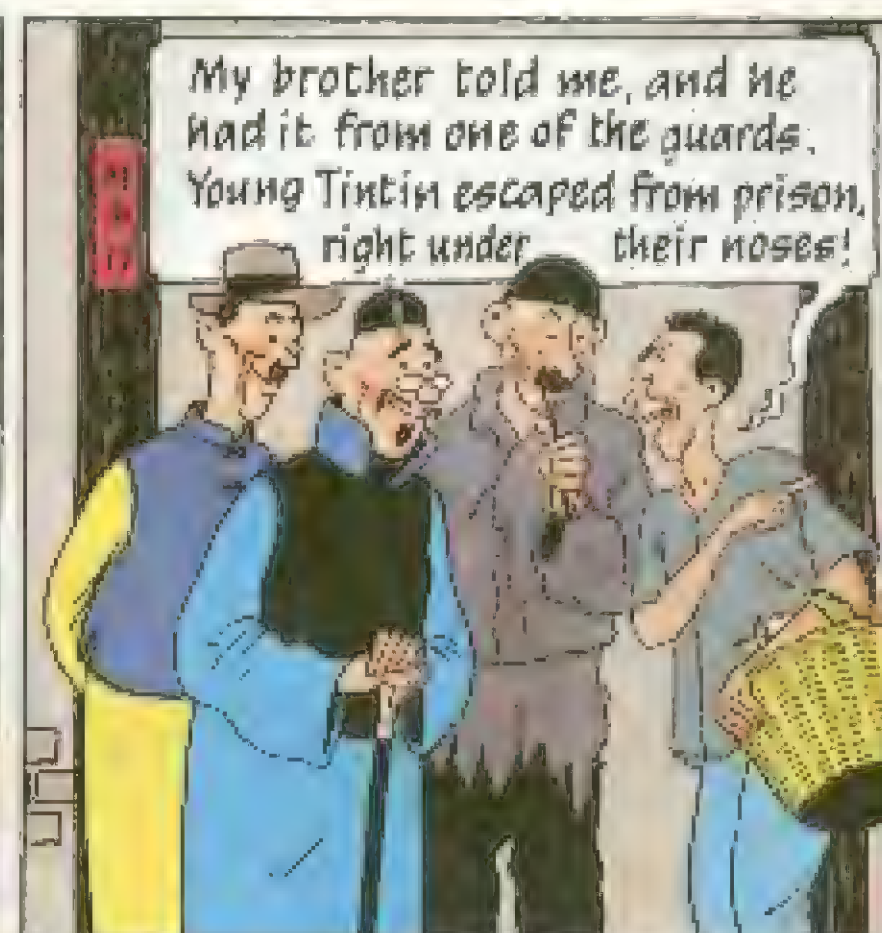
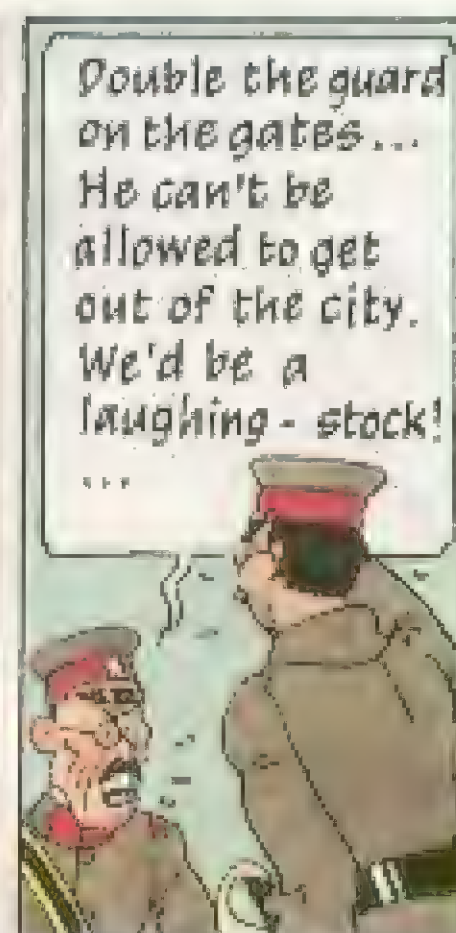
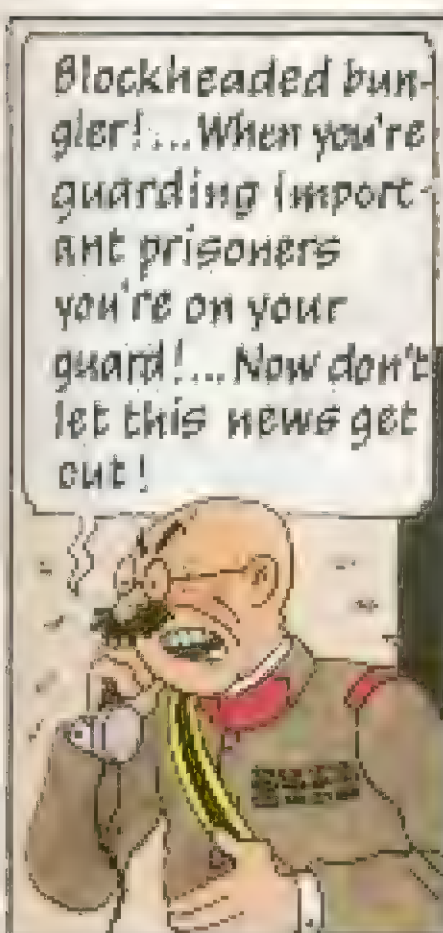
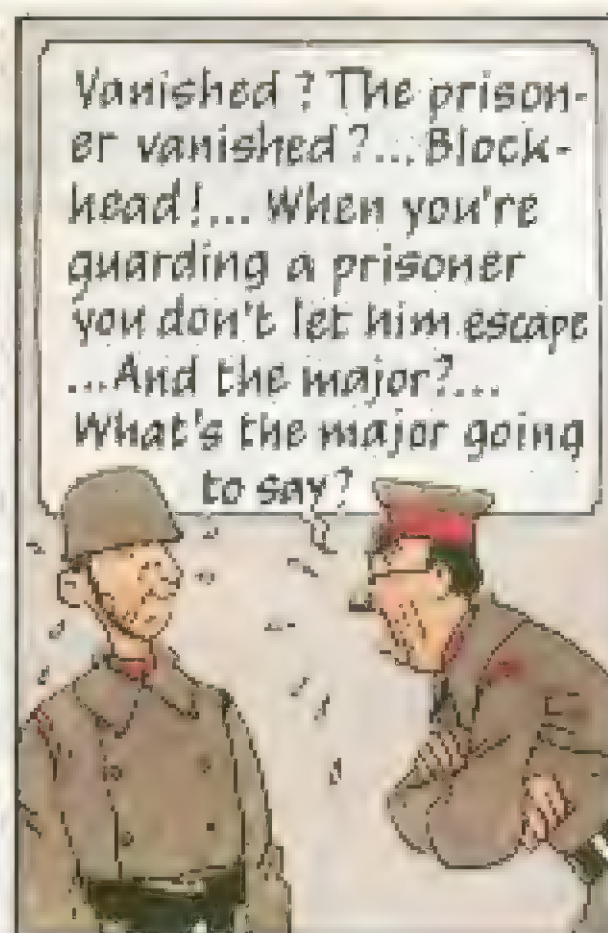
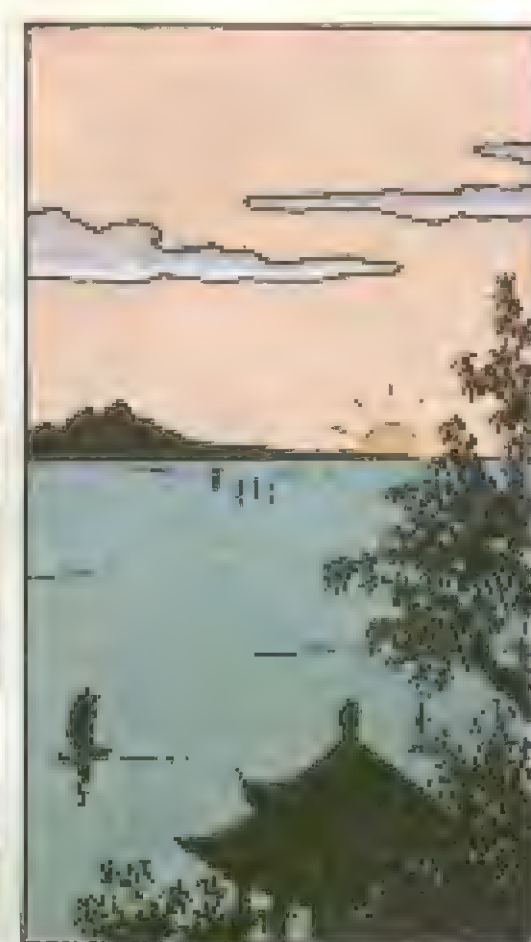
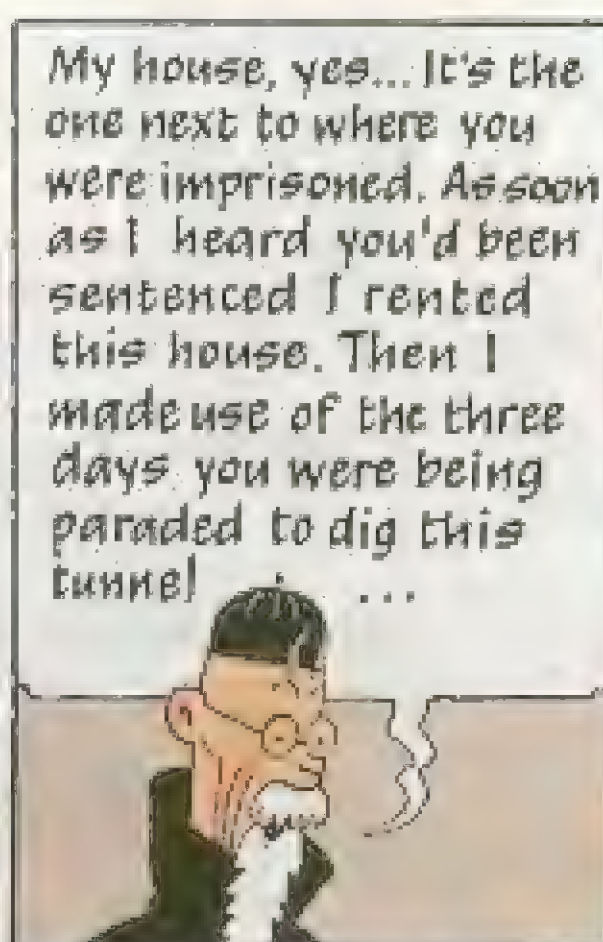
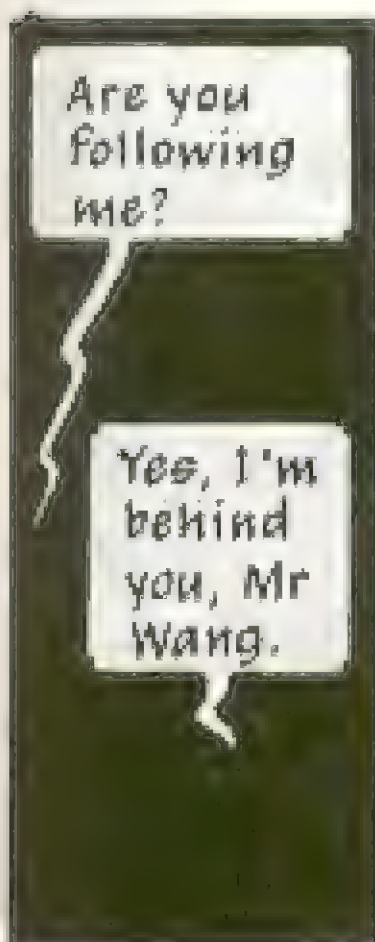
That's all. Here are 10,000 dollars. You accept my proposition, I get you out tonight, and the money's yours...



He refused?...

How did you guess?







Wait! ... What's inside those sacks?

It's rice, Lieutenant.

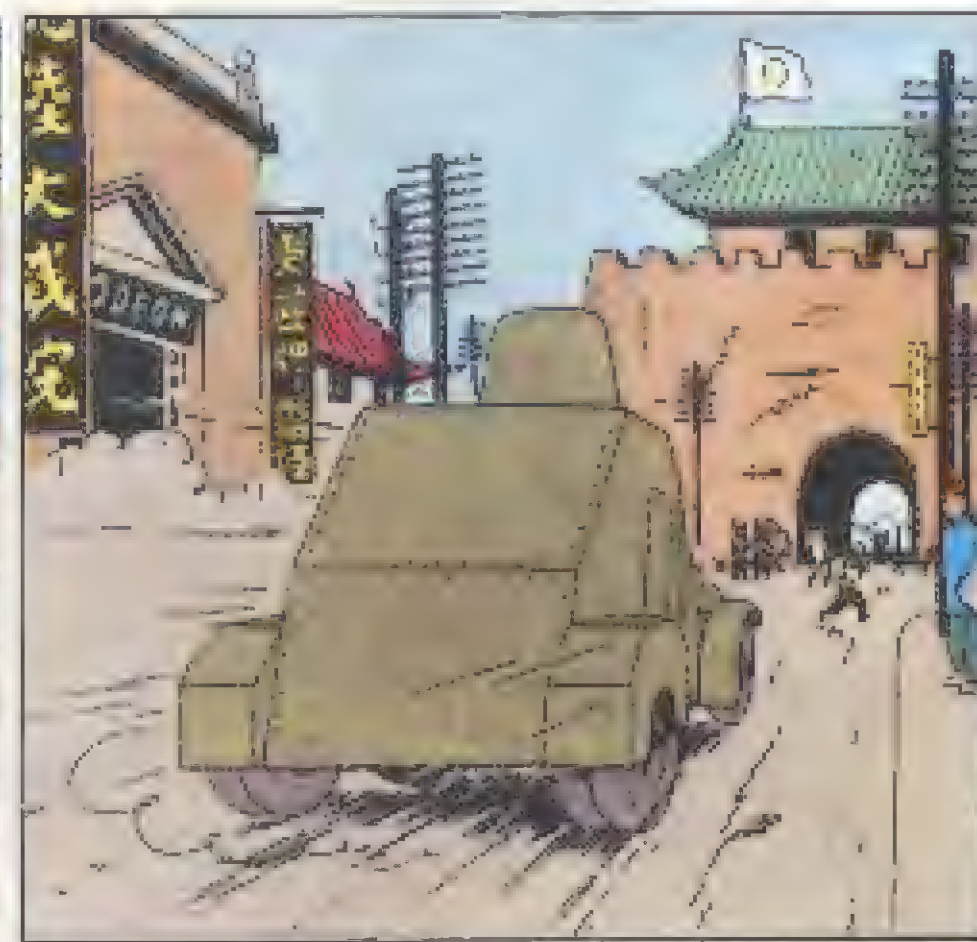
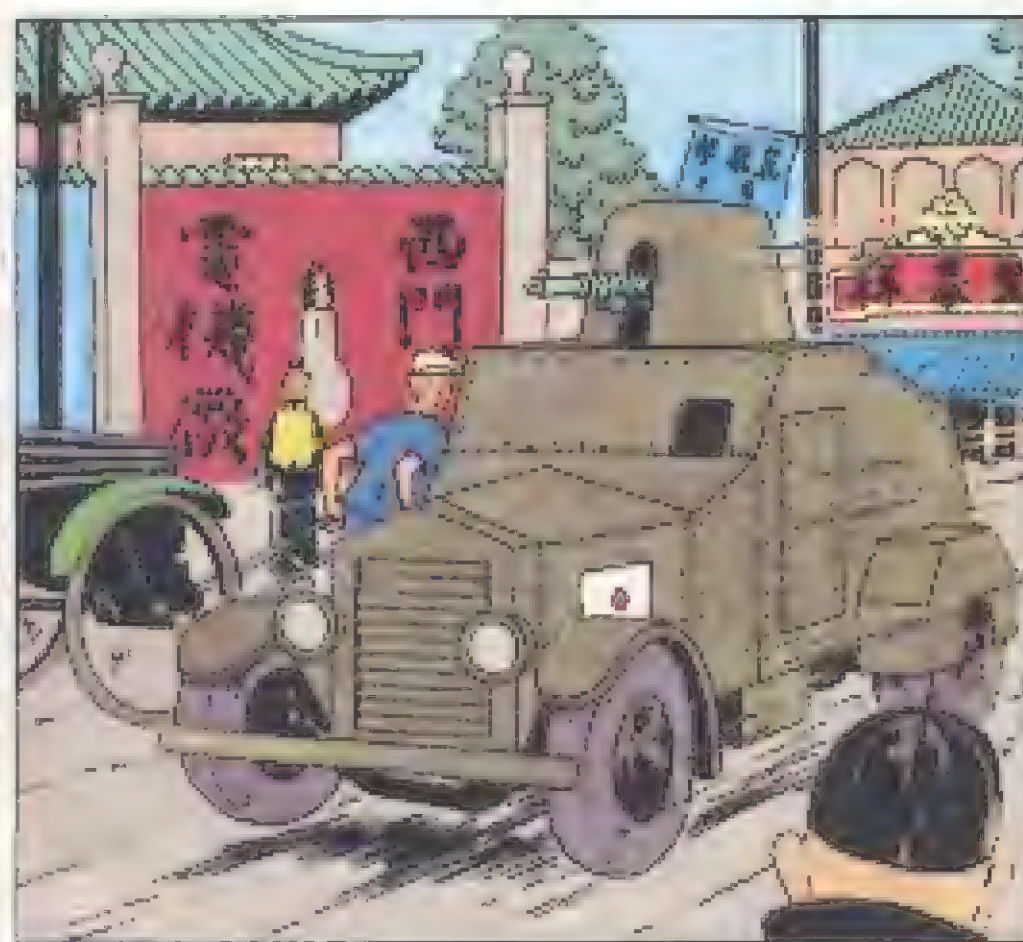


We'll see about that! Run your bayonet through each sack!



All done, Lieutenant!

You can go!

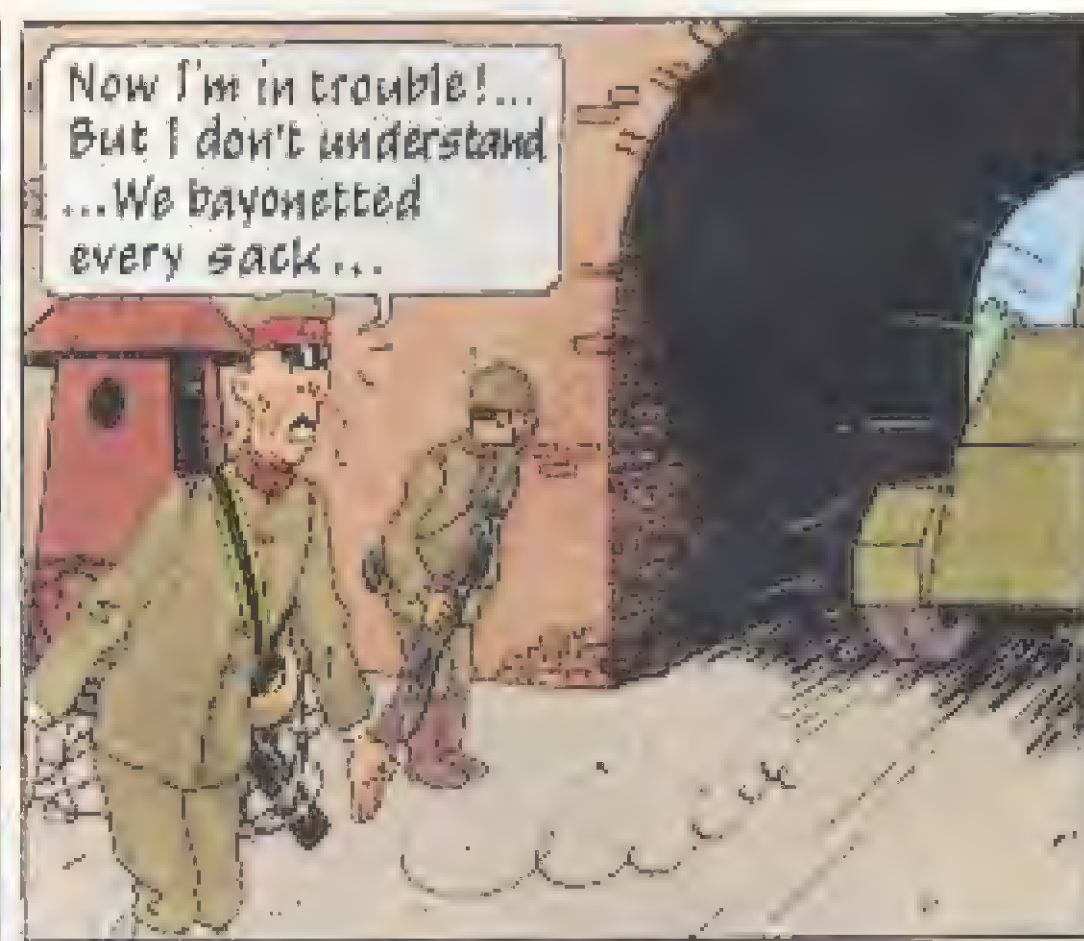


Have you seen a cart go past with sacks on it, pushed by three Chinese?

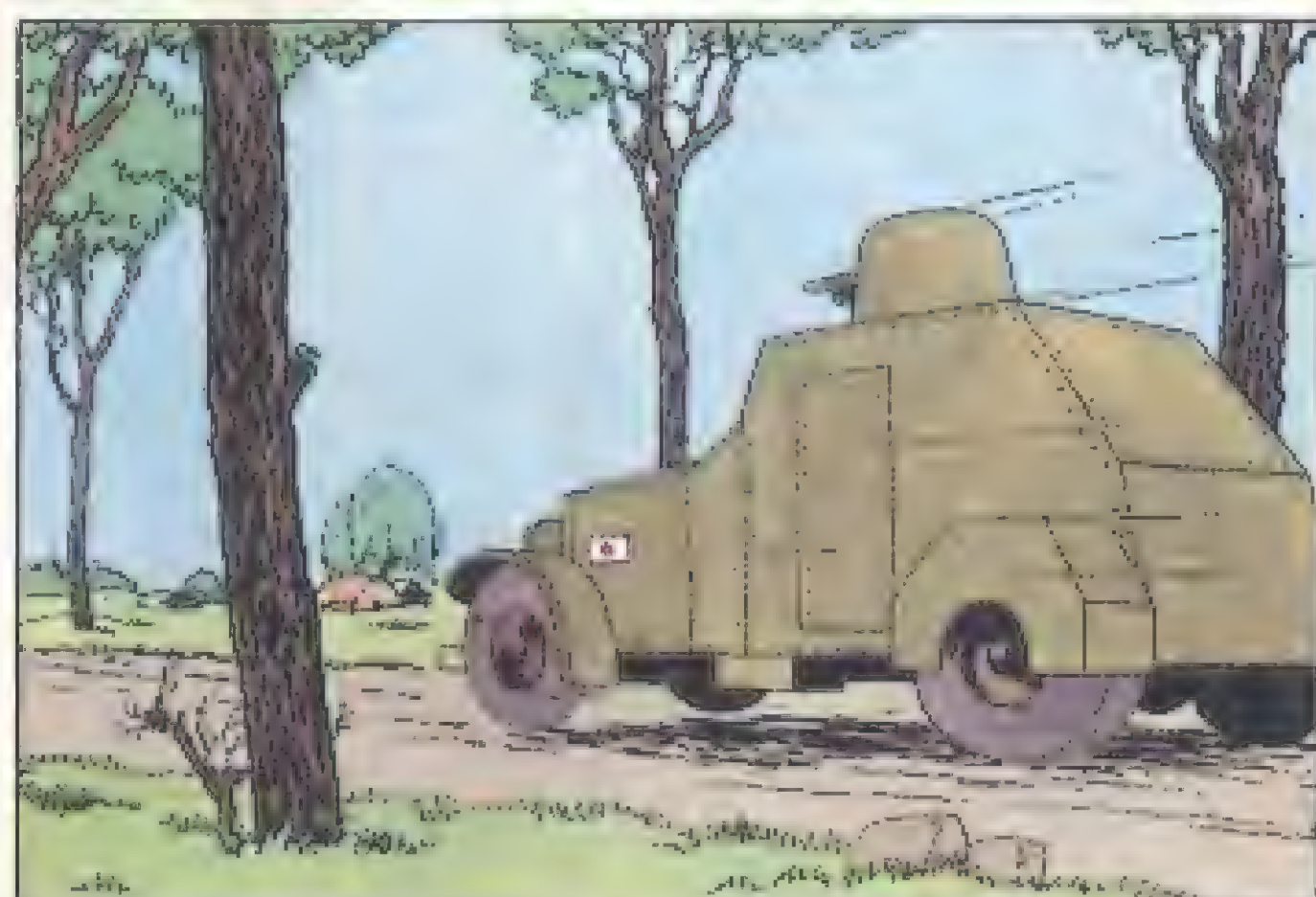
Yes, I saw it. Why?



They've made a fool of you, Lieutenant! ... Tintin was hidden in one of those sacks!

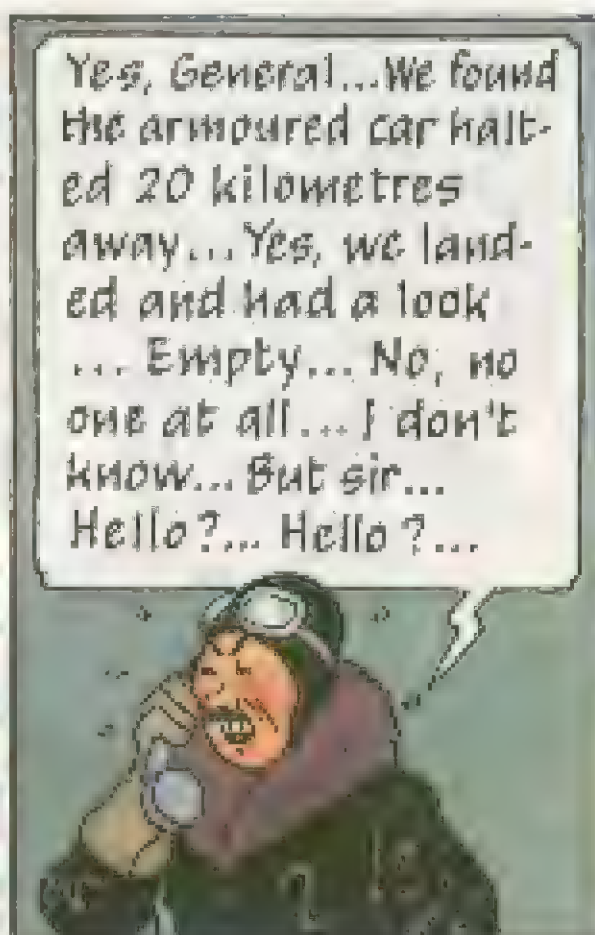
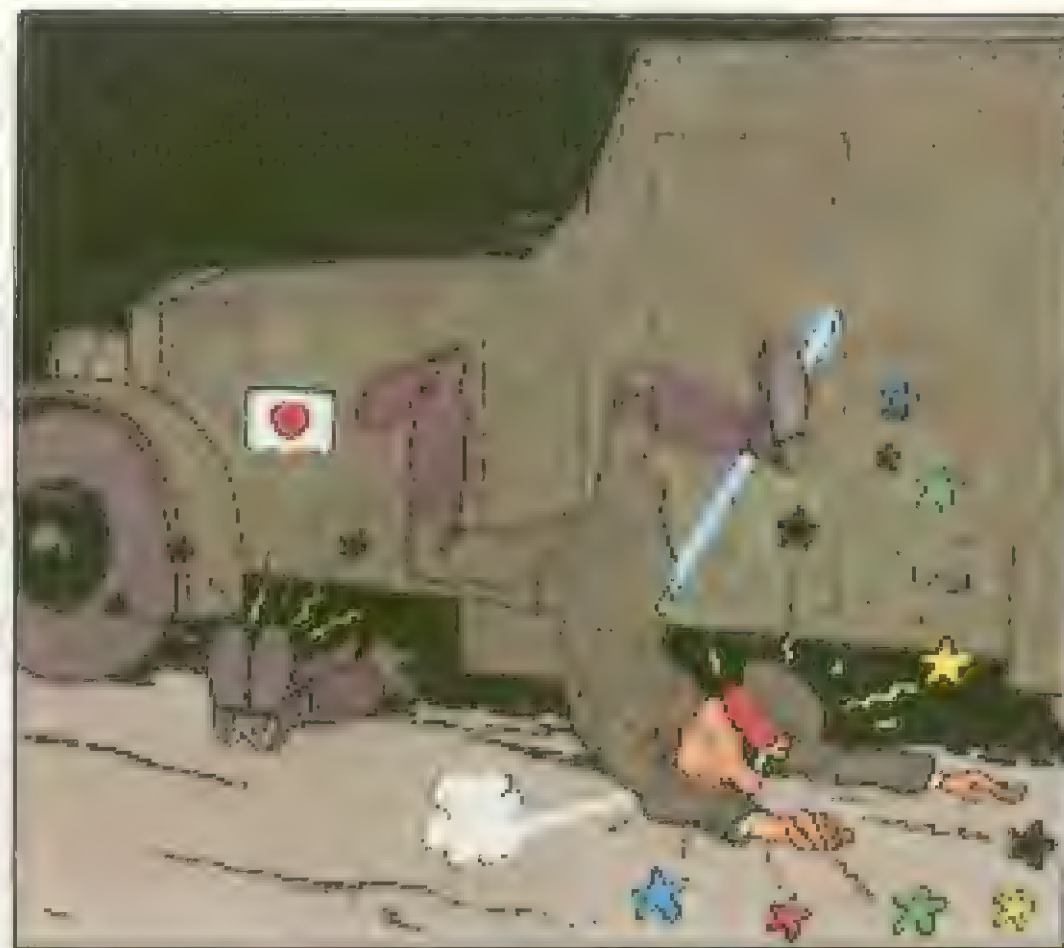


Now I'm in trouble! ... But I don't understand ... We bayoneted every sack ...

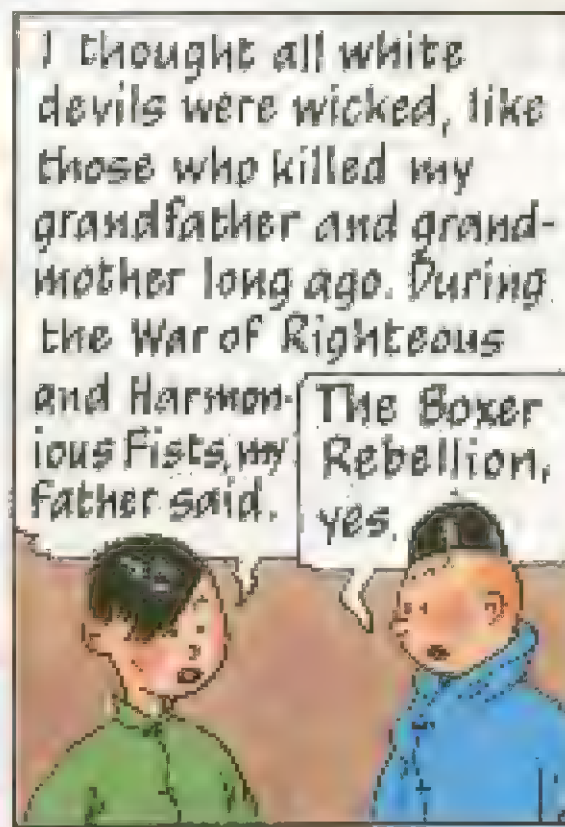


Sergeant-major, the sentry guarding the armoured cars has disappeared.





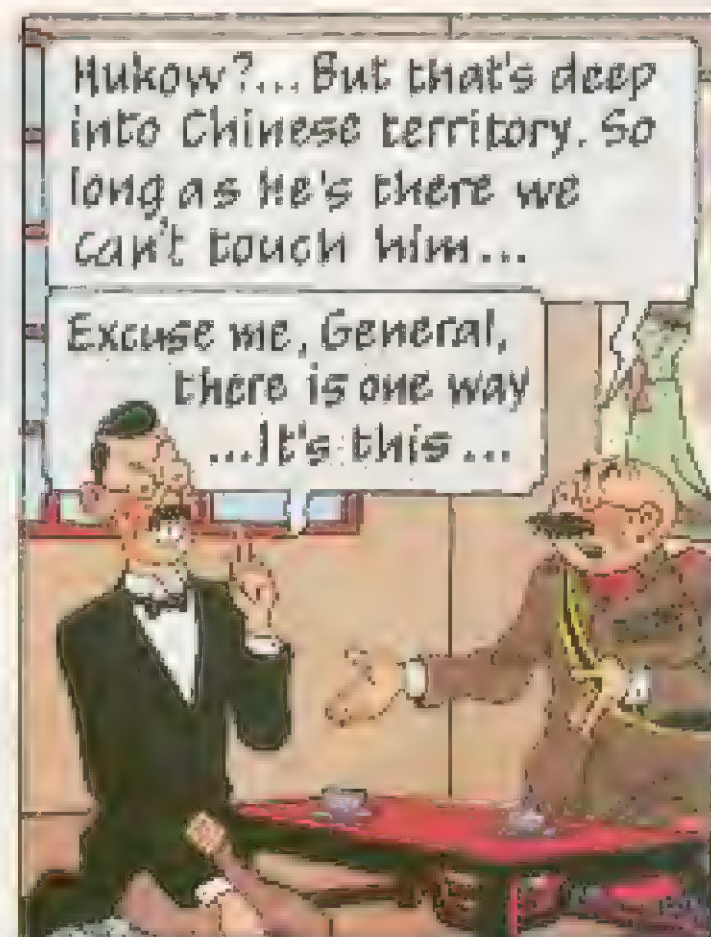
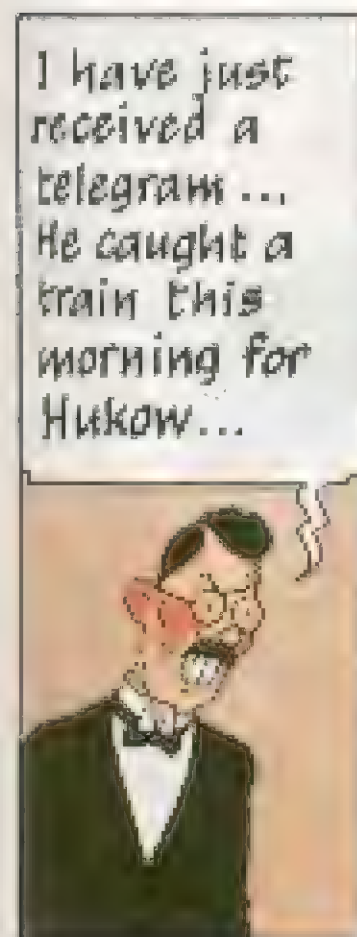


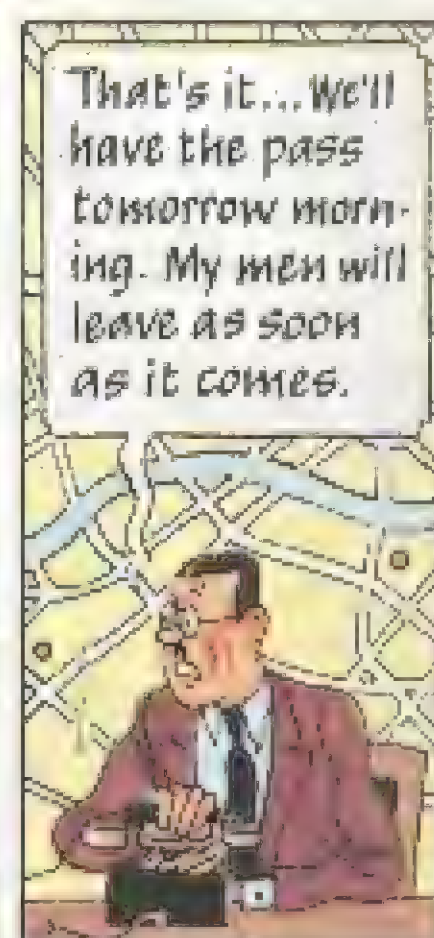
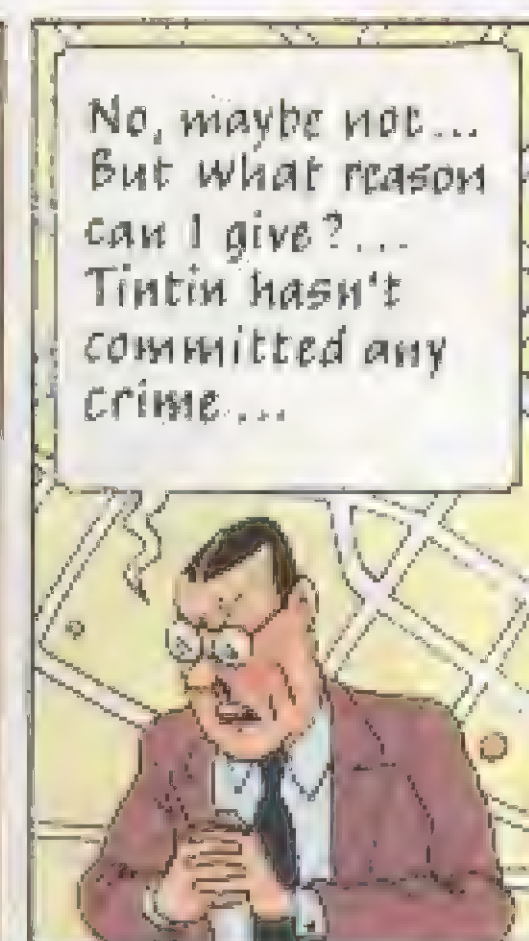
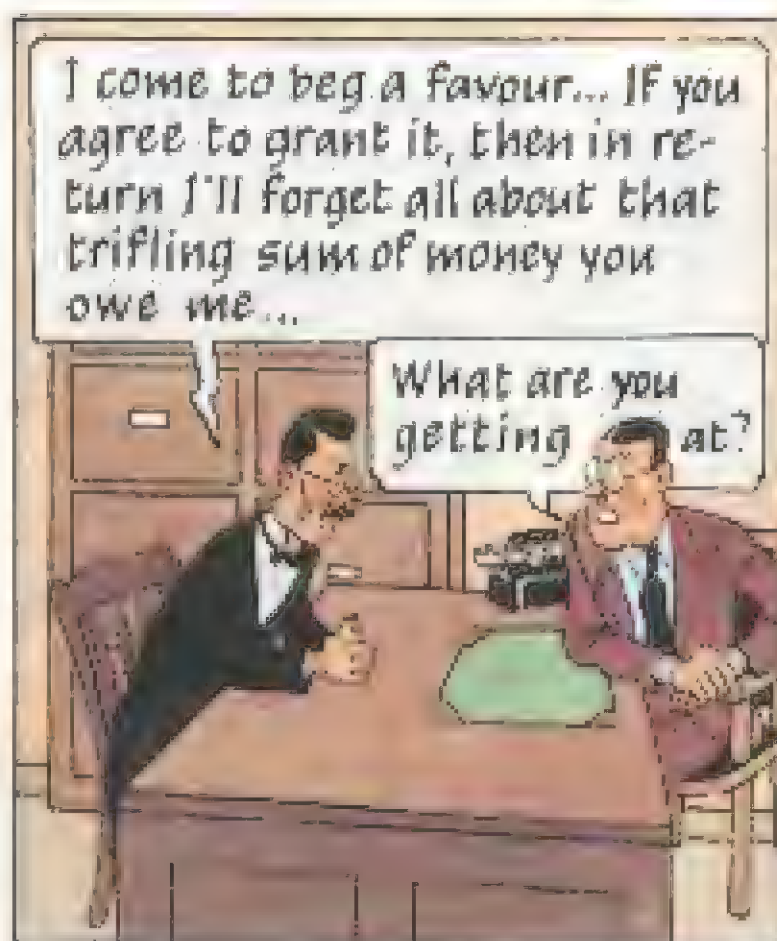
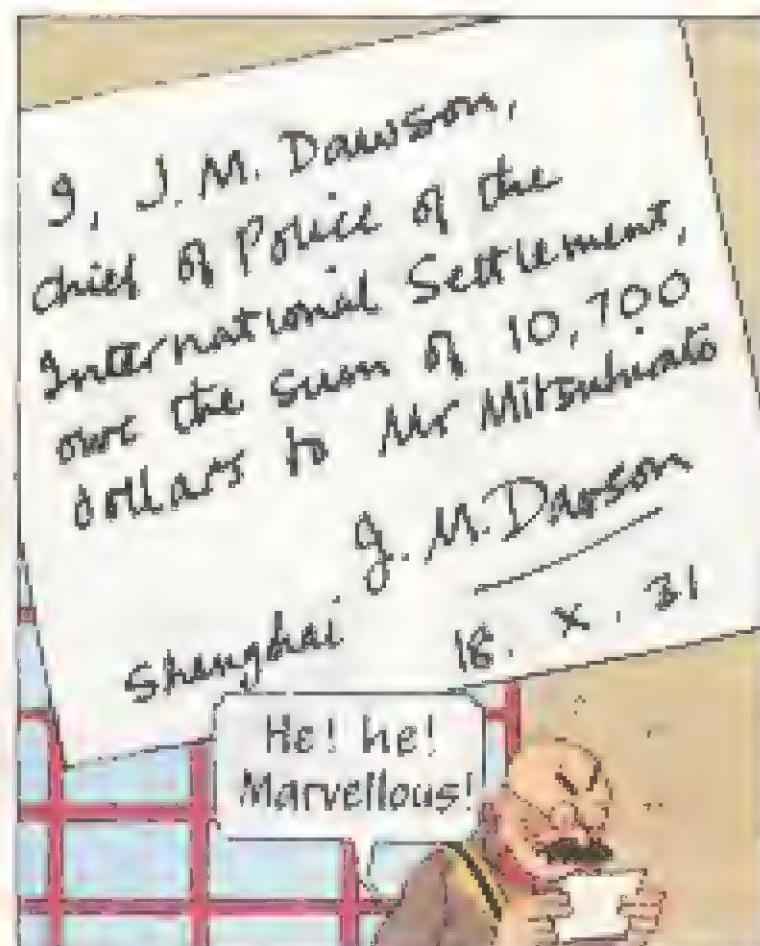
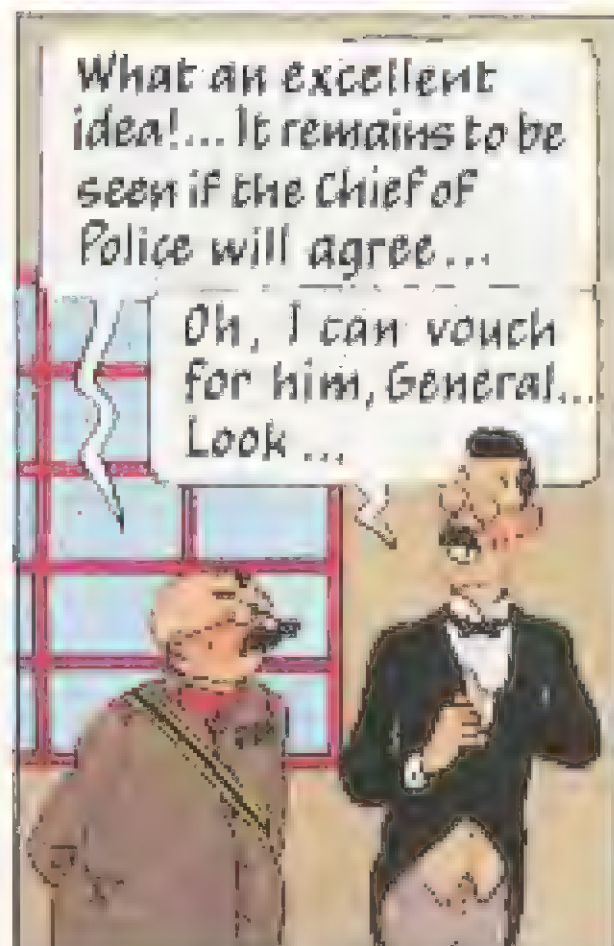


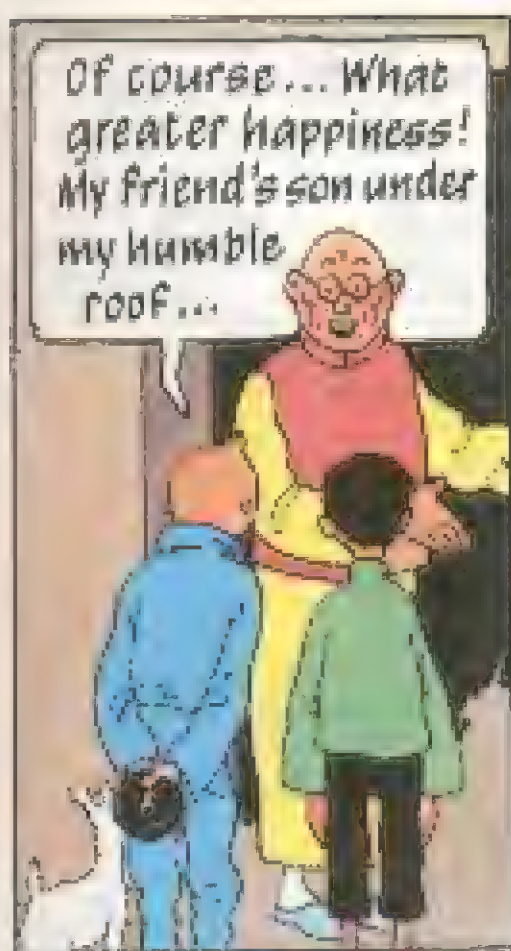
...that all Chinese are cunning and cruel and wear pig-tails, are always inventing tortures, and eating rotten eggs and swallows' nests...

The same stupid Europeans are quite convinced that all Chinese have tiny feet, and even now little Chinese girls suffer agonies with bandages...

...designed to prevent their feet developing normally. They're even convinced that Chinese rivers are full of unwanted babies, thrown in when they are born.



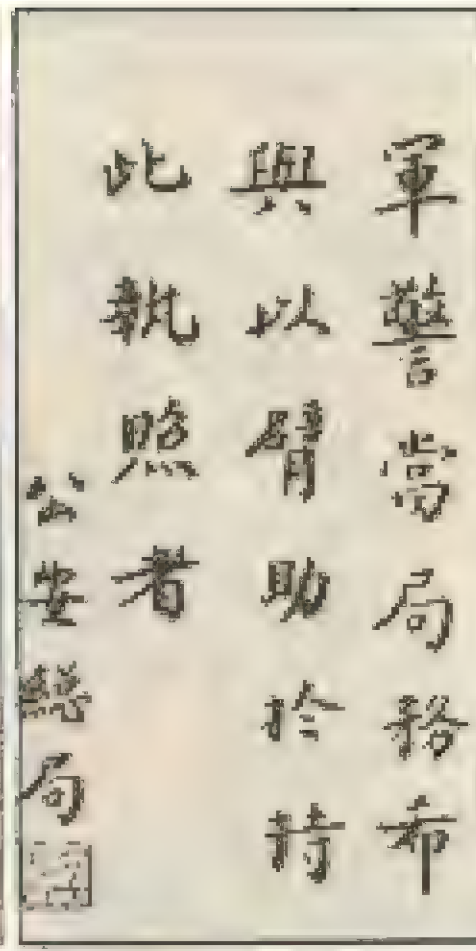




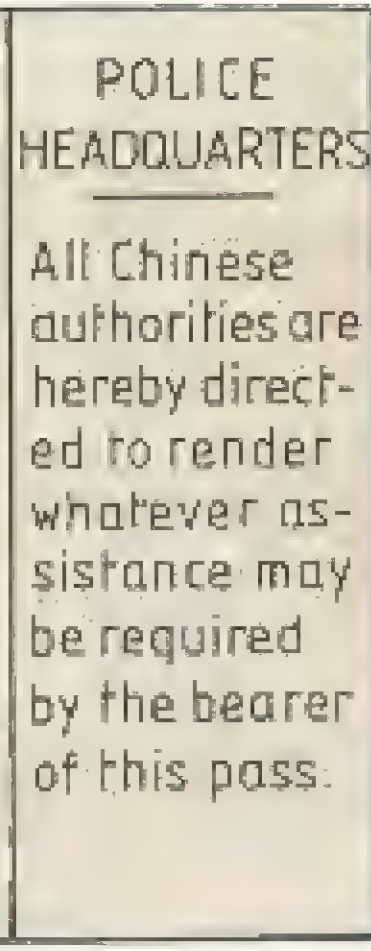
Of course... What greater happiness! My friend's son under my humble roof...



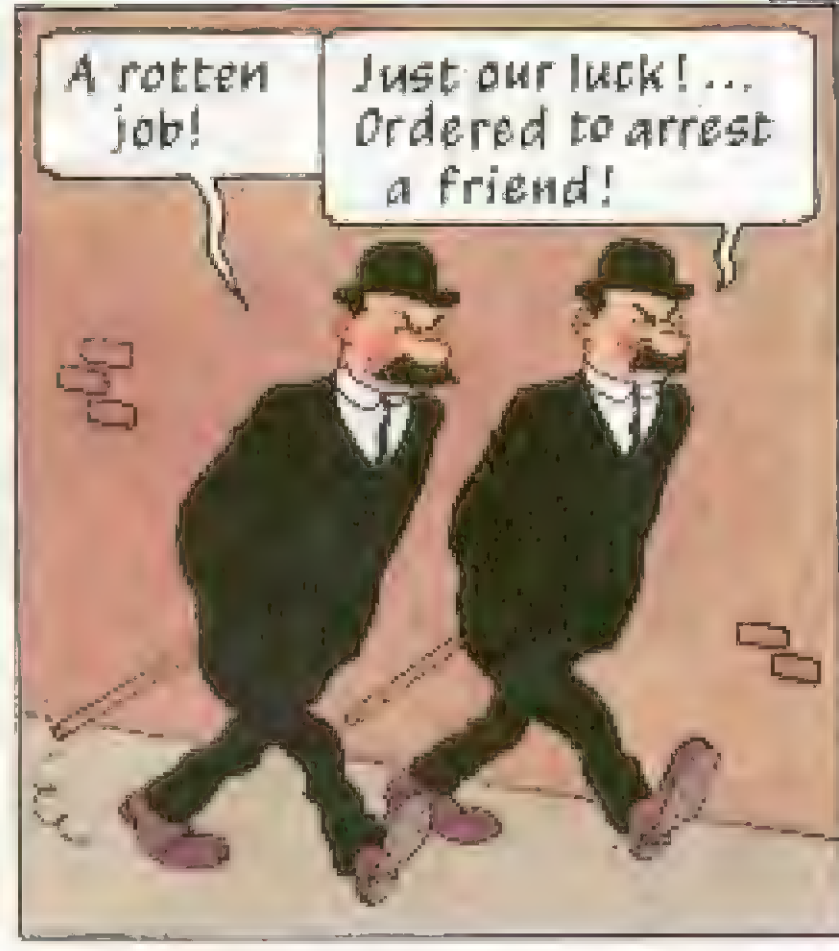
You already have travel permits. This is a safe-conduct from the Chinese authorities. It will facilitate your mission ...



此與軍警當局
執照者以臂助於持
公安總局

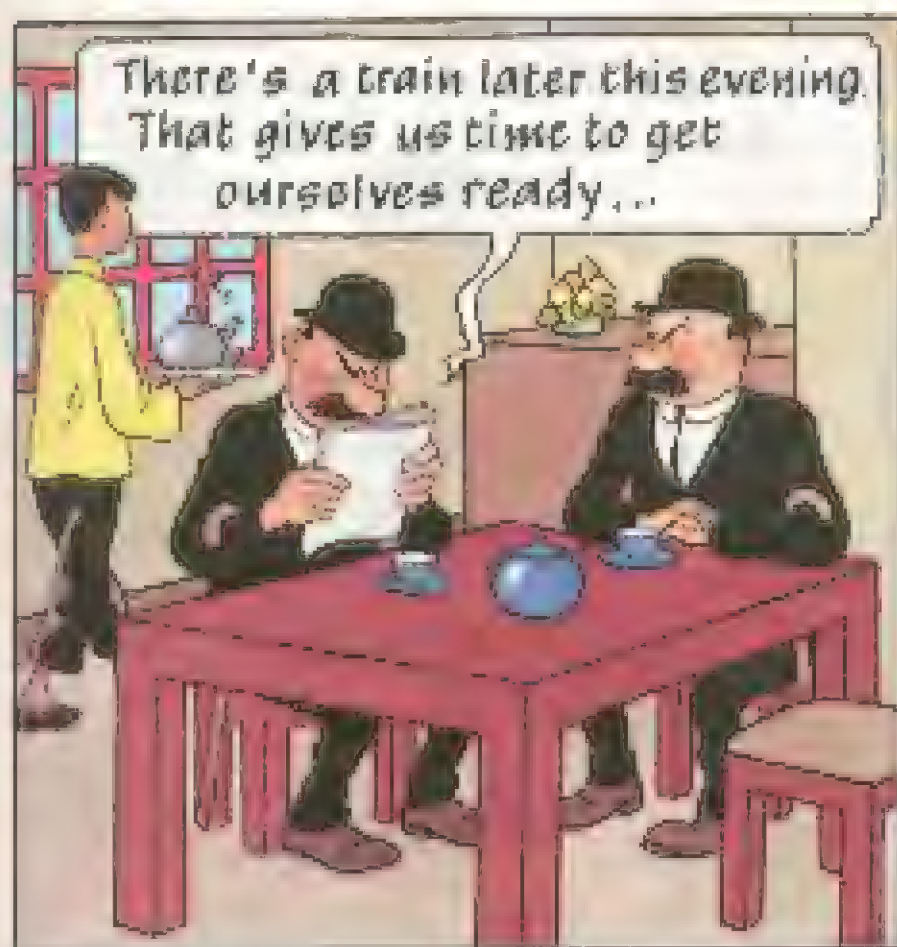


POLICE HEADQUARTERS
All Chinese authorities are hereby directed to render whatever assistance may be required by the bearer of this pass.

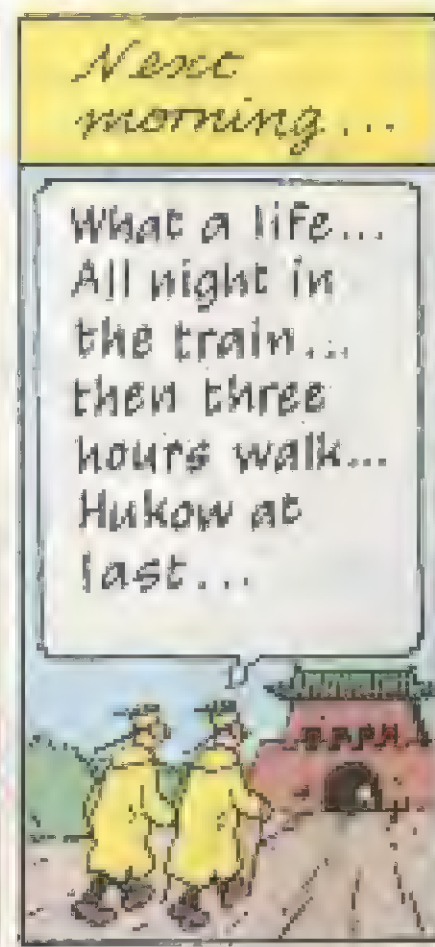


A rotten job!

Just our luck! ... Ordered to arrest a friend!



There's a train later this evening. That gives us time to get ourselves ready...



Next morning...

What a life... All night in the train... then three hours walk... Hukow at last...



Just as well we came in disguise...

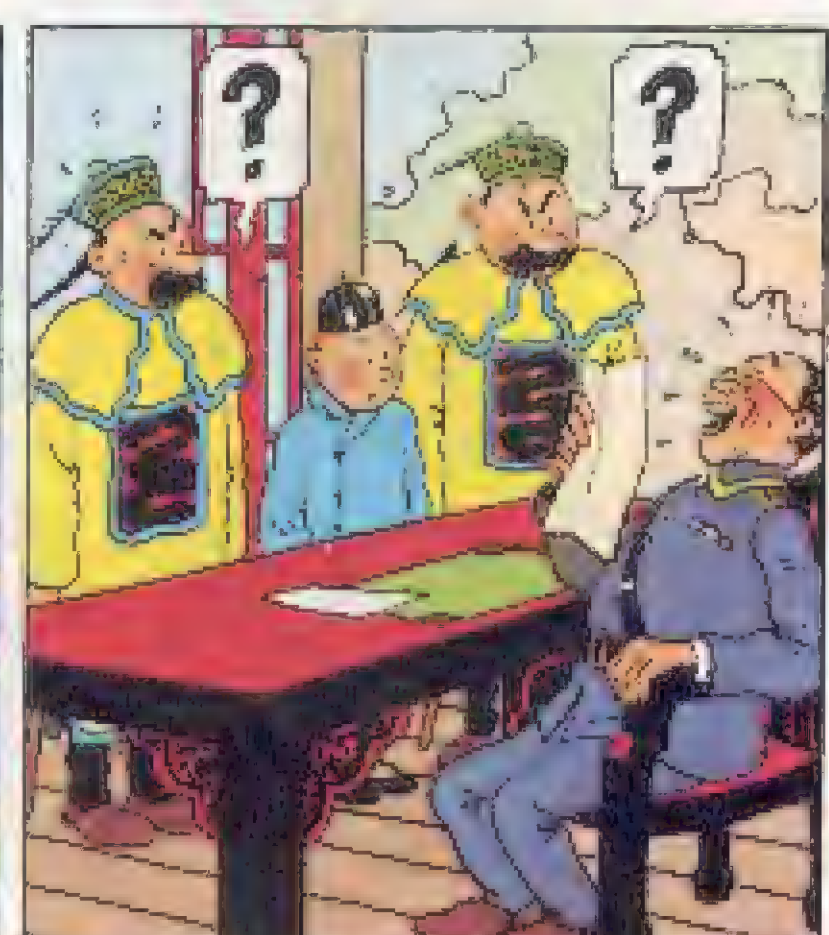
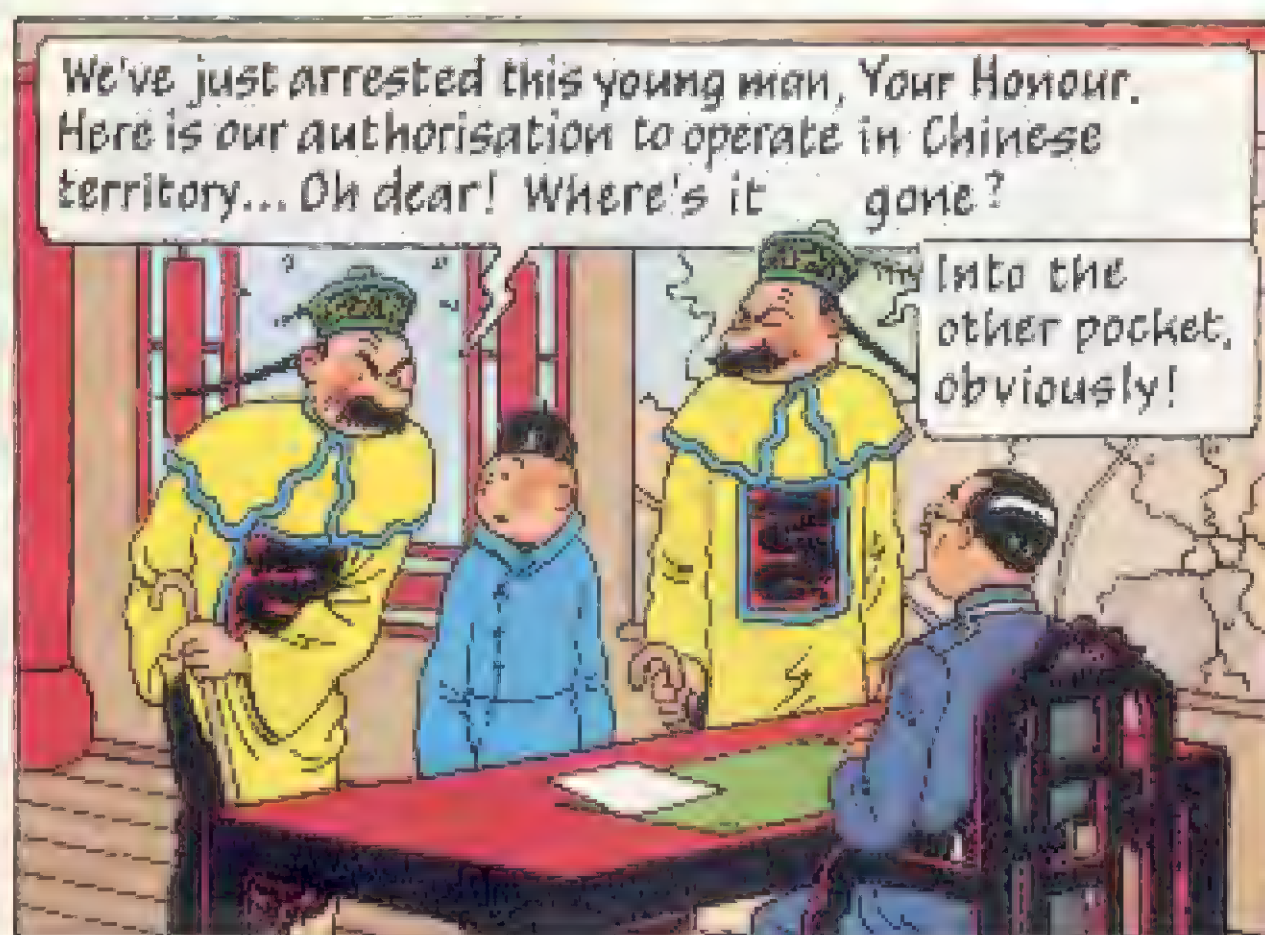
Precisely!



Imagine the sensation we'd have caused, coming to a place like this in European clothes...



Don't look now, but something tells me we're being followed ...





Of course! I should have realised immediately.



What's so funny, Your Worship?

To be precise, why's he making fun of us?



You're funny, all right!... Ha! ha! ha! Here, you can have your precious paper... Then you'd better get out, fast!... Without your prison... er!



It's disgraceful! We're a disgrace!...



It's... it's monstrous!

You'll hear more of this, Monstrosity!



We must do something!

We need something to do! Shanghai must be told!



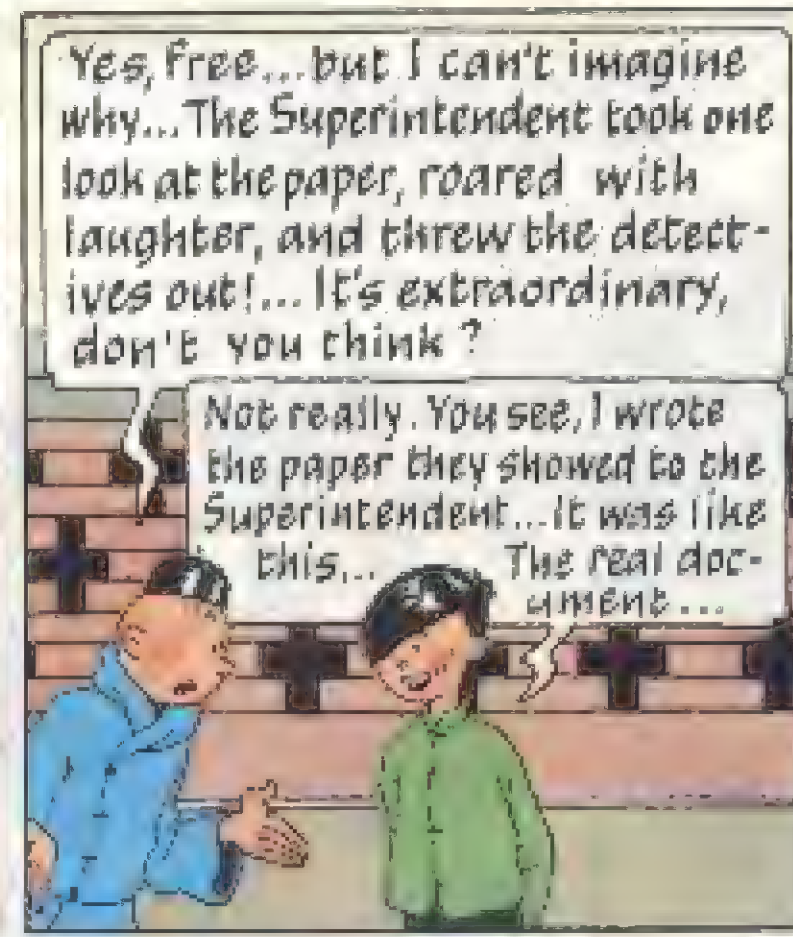
As for you, young man, you're free to go, of course.

Thank you very much, Superintendent.



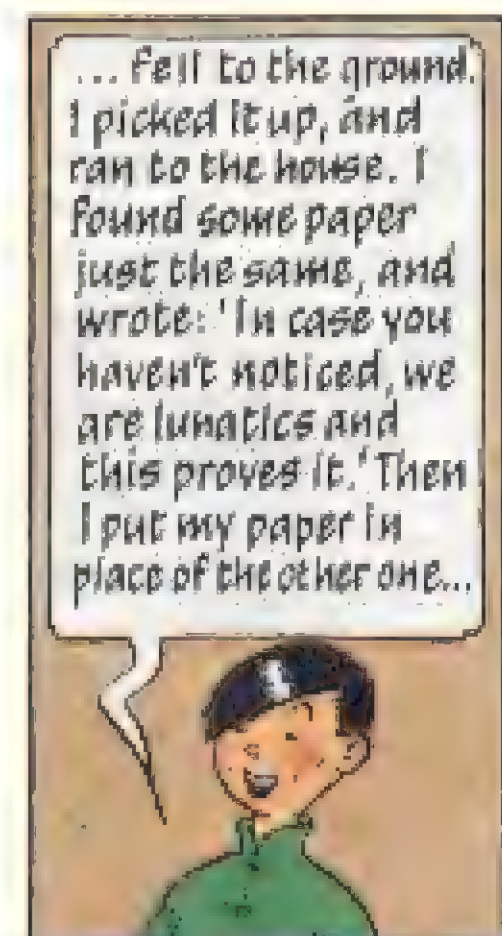
Here I am!

Free?



Yes, free... but I can't imagine why... The Superintendent took one look at the paper, roared with laughter, and threw the detectives out!... It's extraordinary, don't you think?

Not really. You see, I wrote the paper they showed to the Superintendent... It was like this... The real document...



... Fell to the ground. I picked it up, and ran to the house. I found some paper just the same, and wrote: 'In case you haven't noticed, we are lunatics and this proves it.' Then I put my paper in place of the other one...



Now I understand!... What a good friend you are, Chang!



Poor Thomson and Thompson!

Don't worry, Tintin... They deserved it.

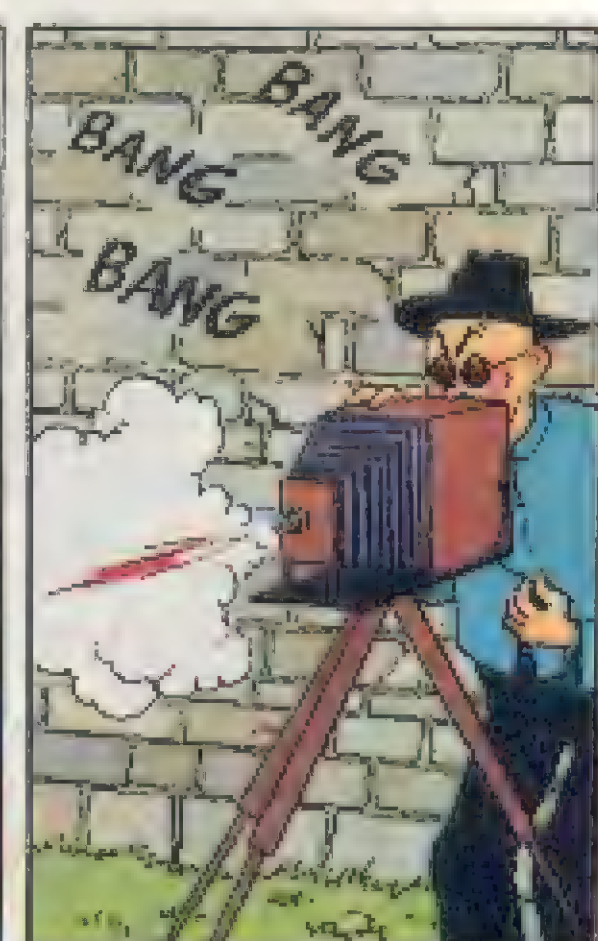
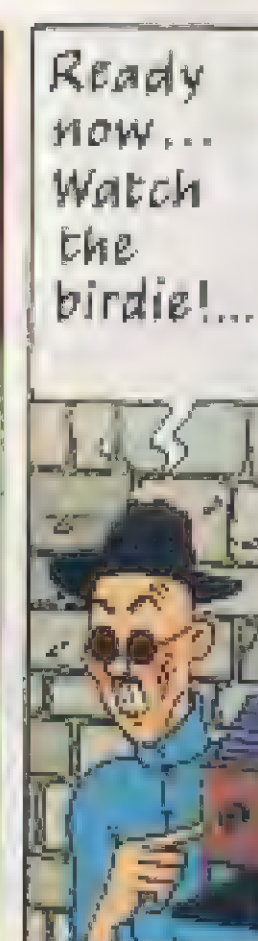
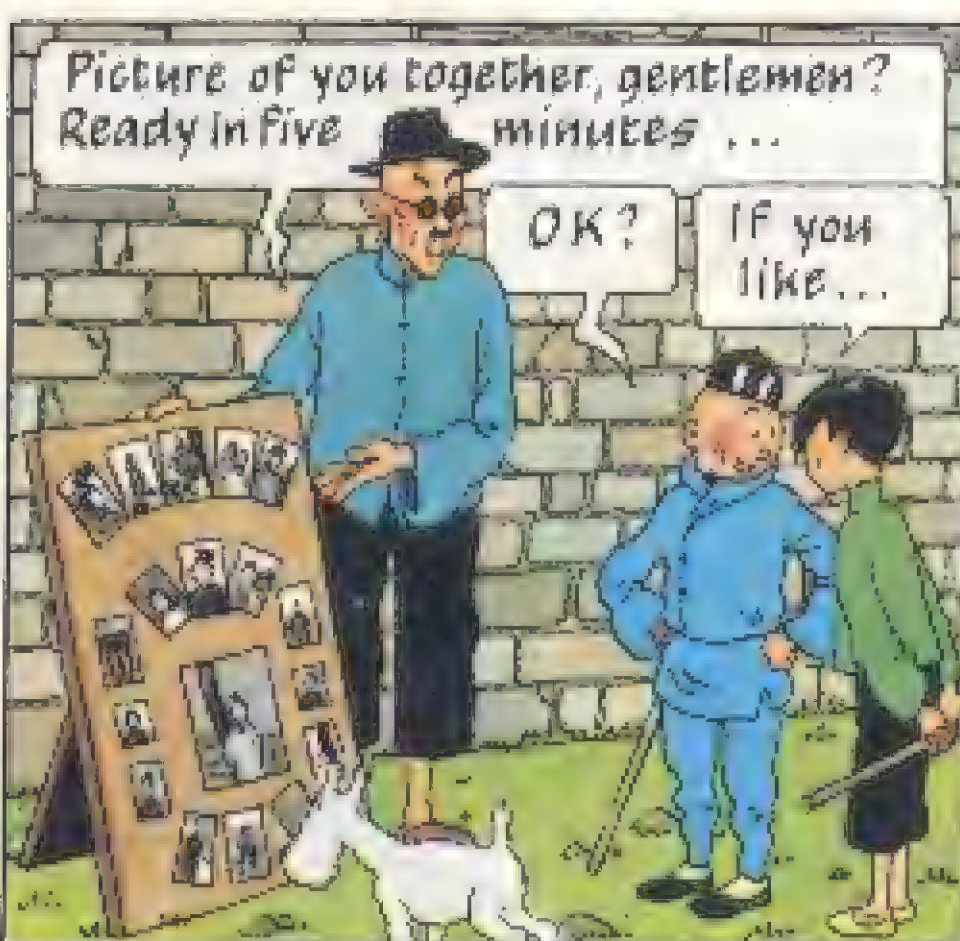
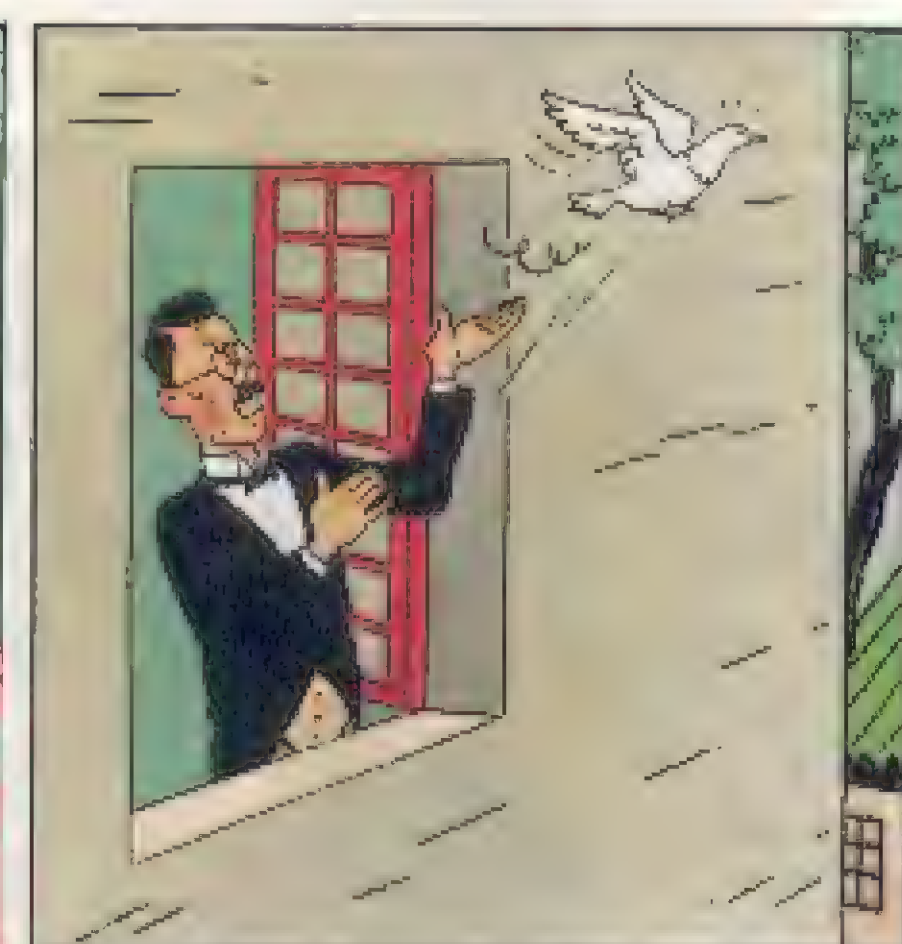
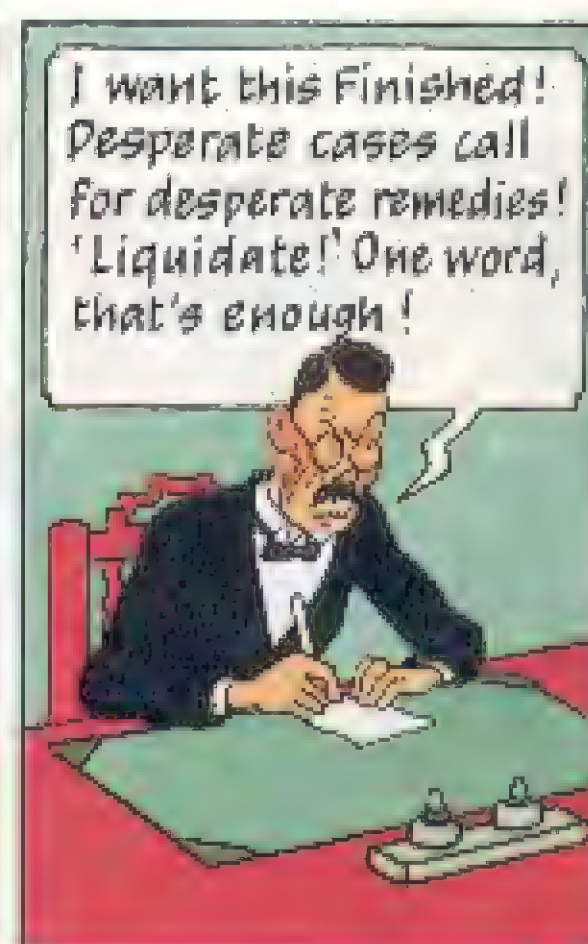
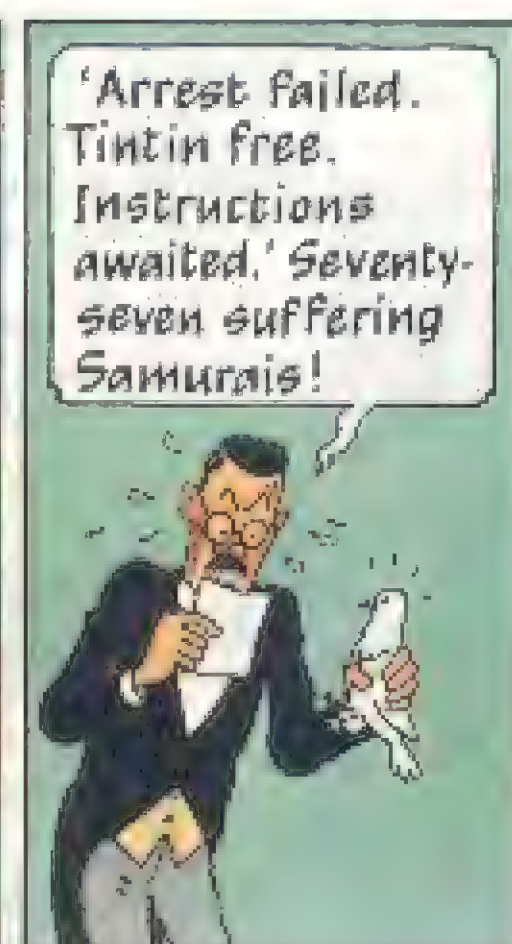


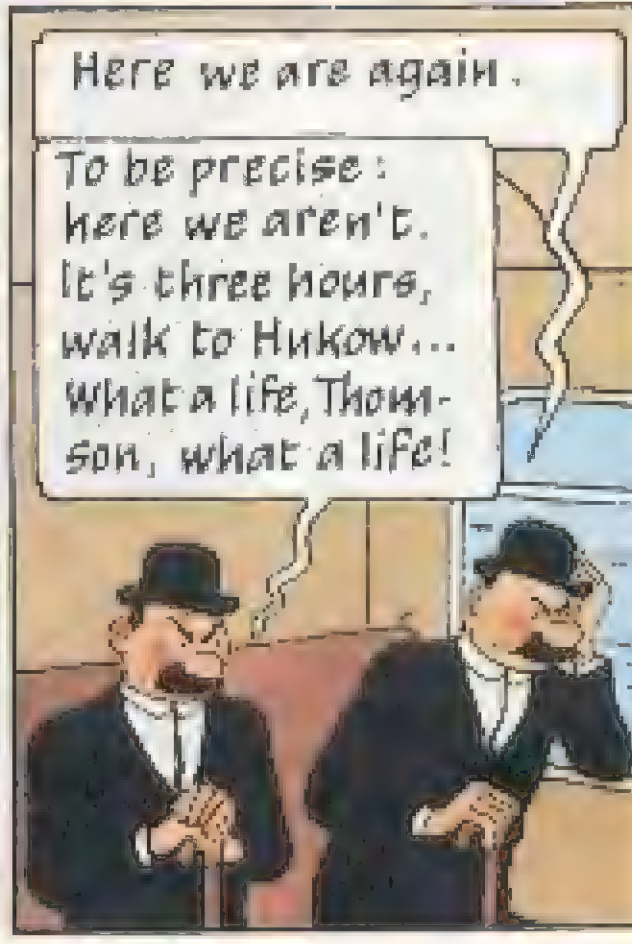
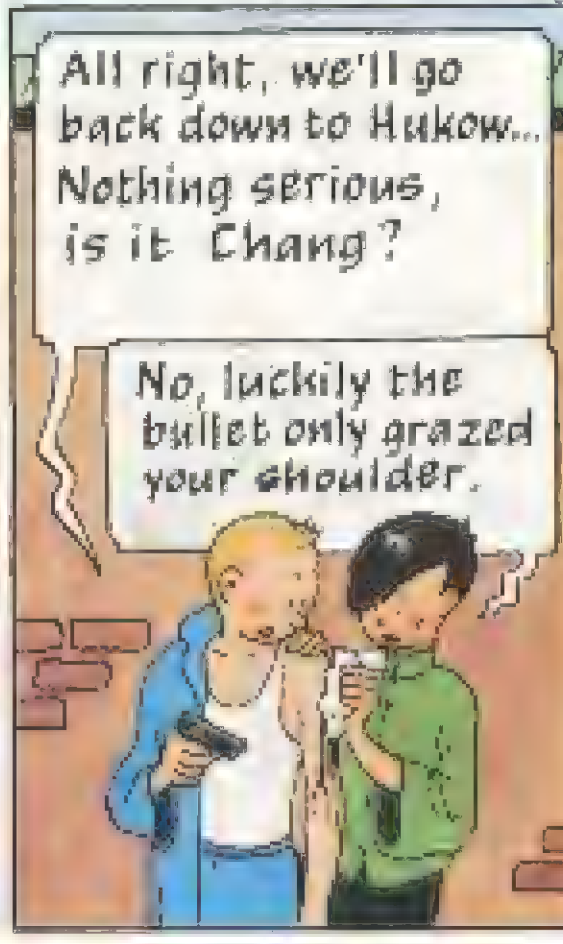
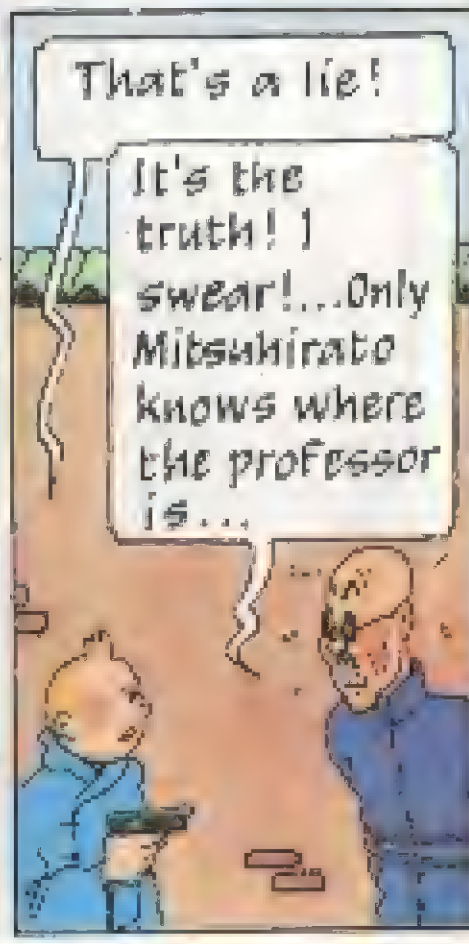
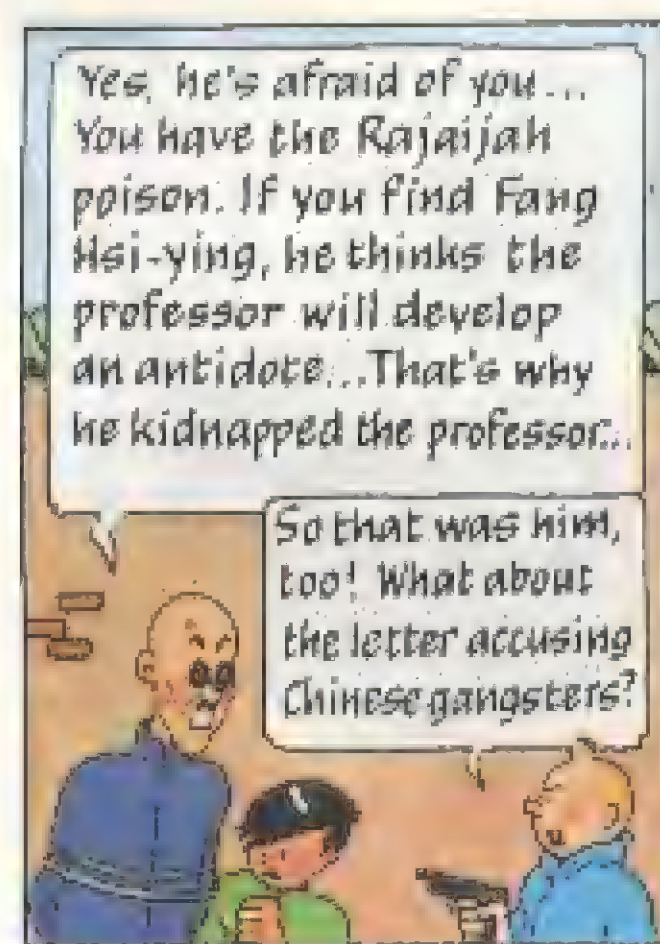
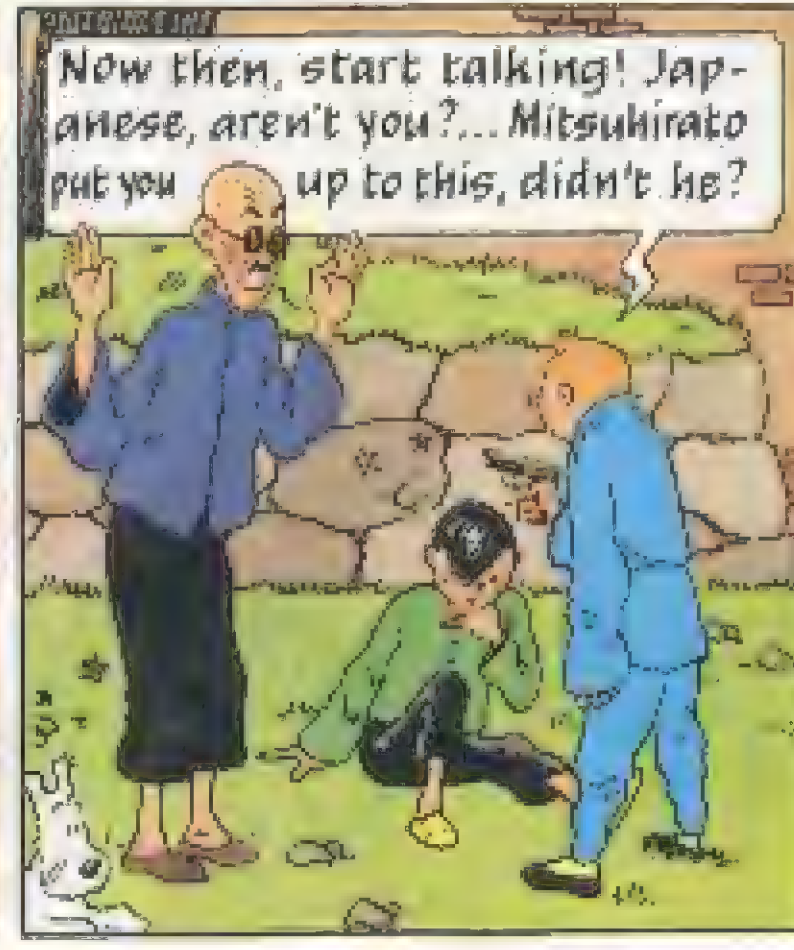
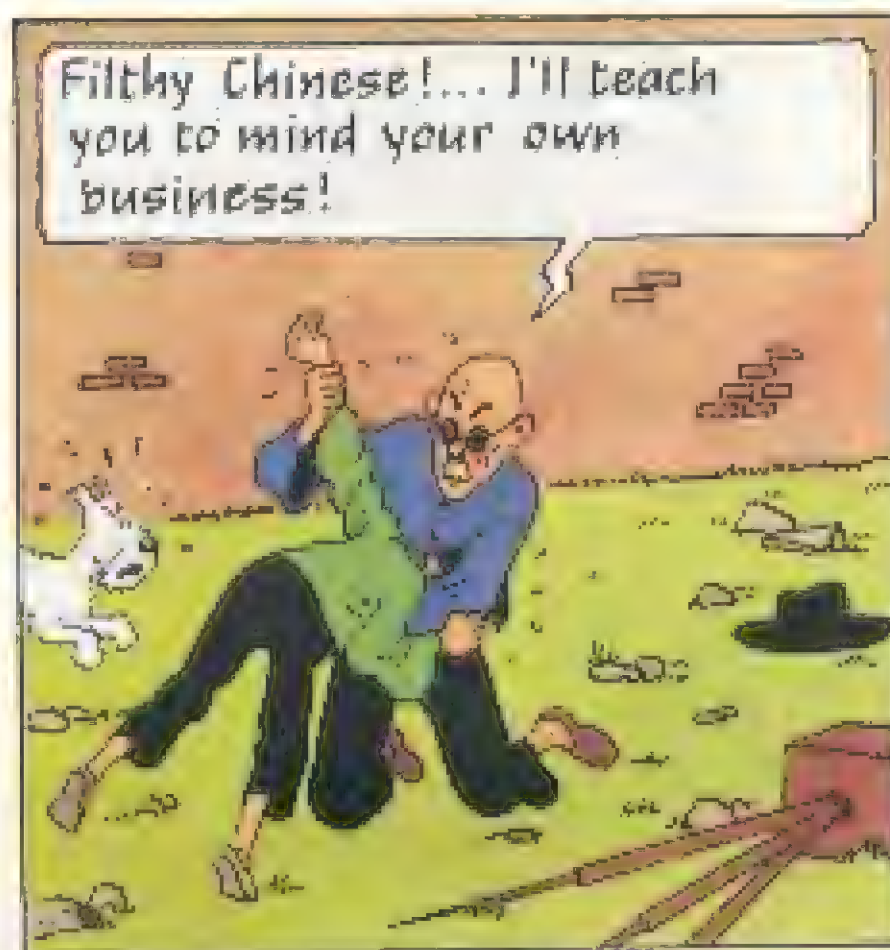
Kindly send this telegram to the Chief of Police, International Settlement, Shanghai...

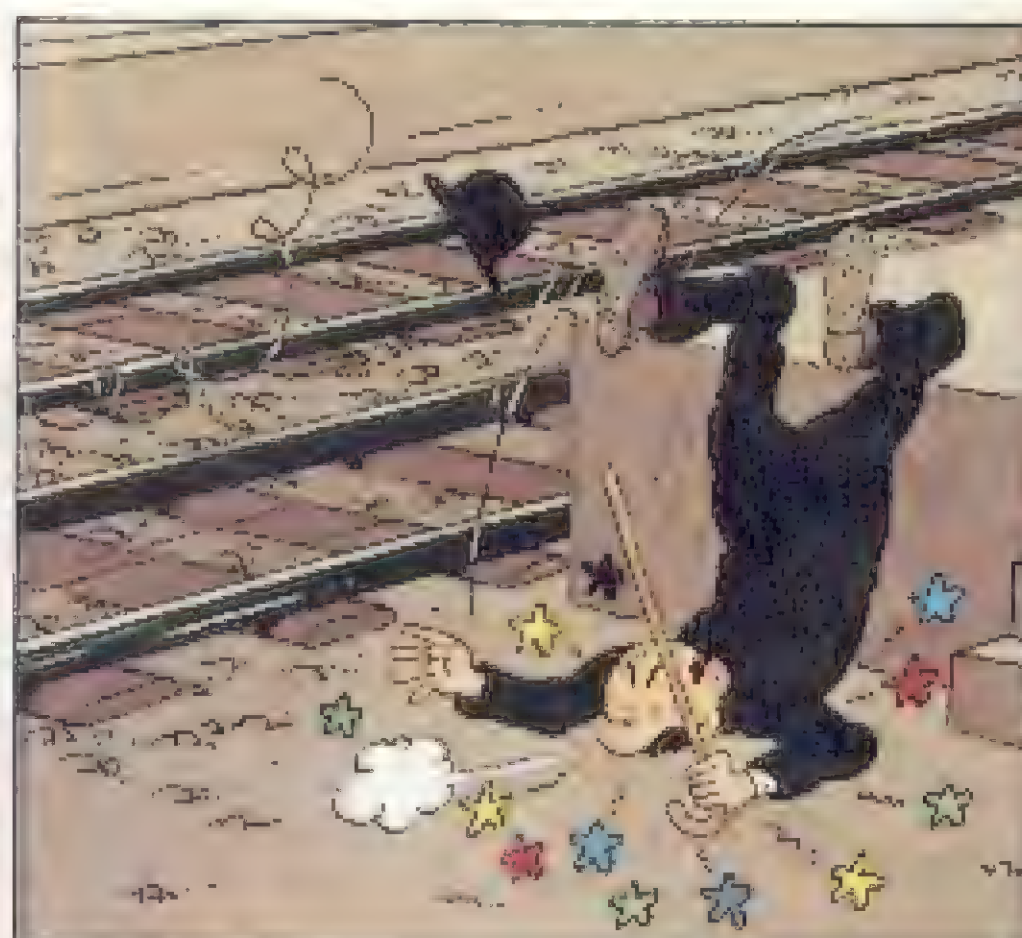
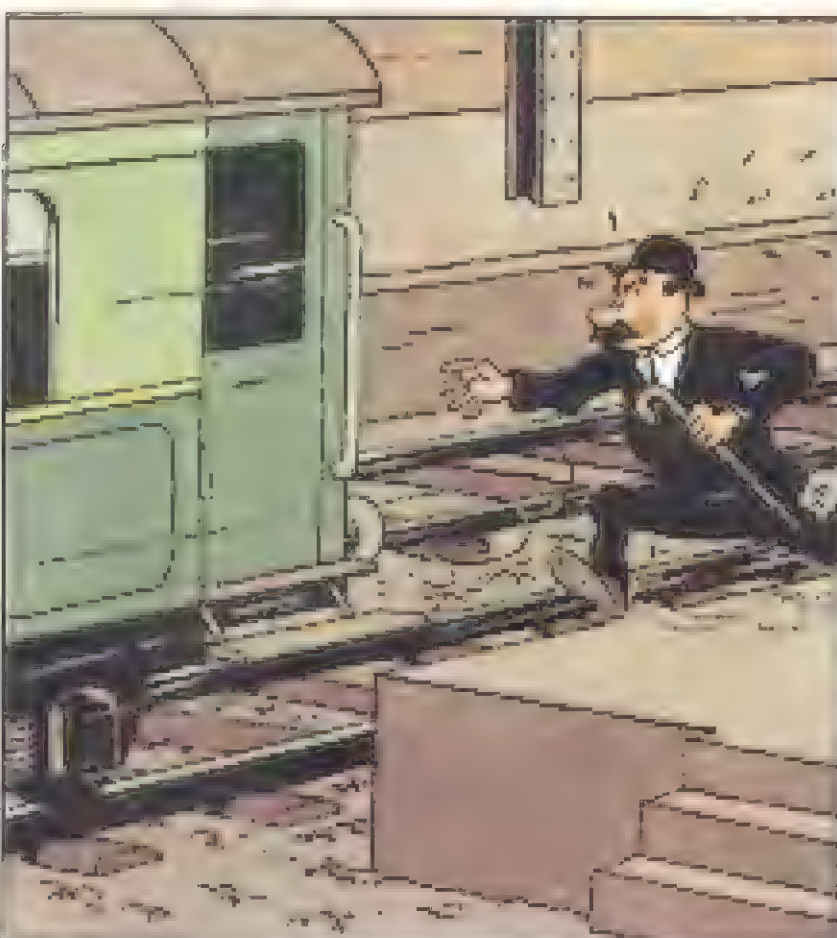
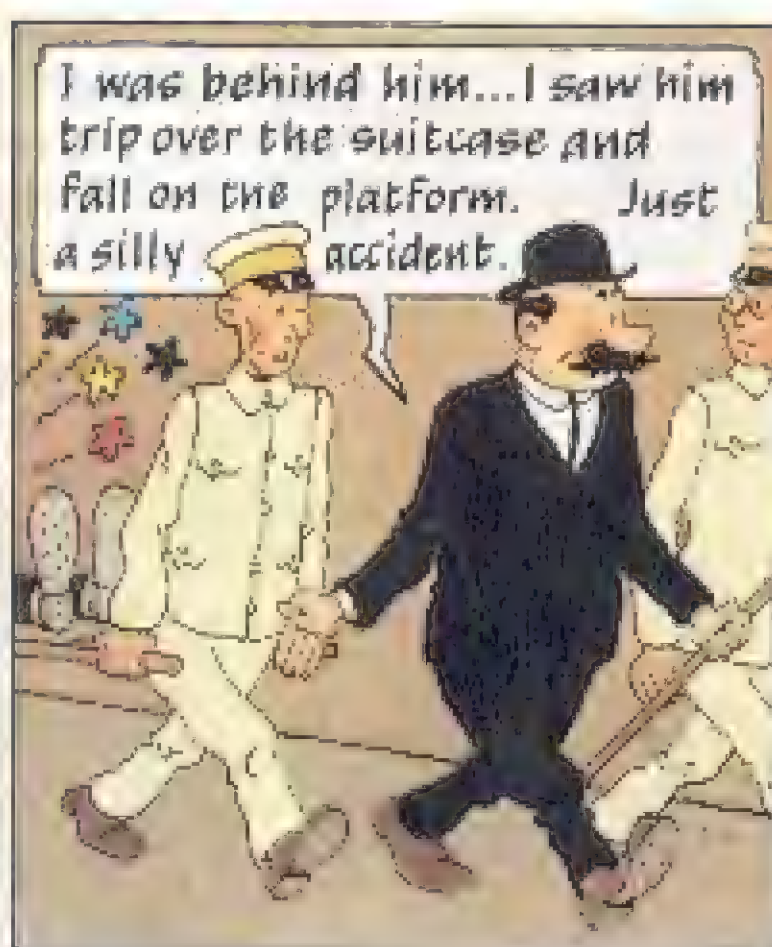
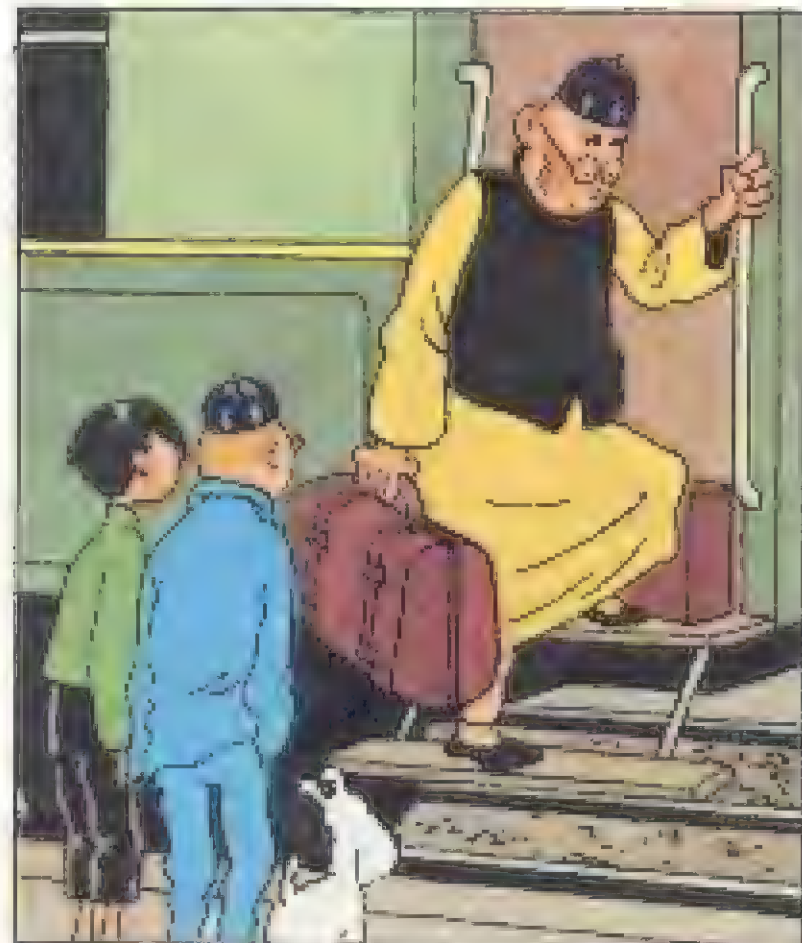


Now we must look for Professor Fang Hsi-ying...

Yes, but there's a storm coming...







Next morning...

That's the last of the passengers... and still no sign of Tintin...

No luck, chief... He wasn't on the train. I reckon he hopped off en route...

Infuriating! Wretched little brat! ...Always outwits us at the last minute!

It's dark now... We can risk it...



Good thing we jumped when the train slowed outside the station. I'm sure someone would have been waiting at the barrier...



Mr Mitsuhiroto? ...Yes, it's me... I'm afraid not... slipped through our fingers!... Yes, I'm as sorry as you are... What do you expect? I did my best...



Policemen!... I suppose I'll have to do it myself, for the umpteenth time!



Come in!



Master, Tintin is in Shanghai!... I saw him with a Chinese boy. They got into a taxi, but I couldn't hear the address they gave the driver...



Pity!... Listen, Yamato... Get busy... Try to discover where he's gone to ground, and who's hiding him. Understand?



The gods be praised! We meet again!... You must rest for a few days... Give your wound a chance to heal...

I will... Then we must deal with Mitsuhiroto!



A week later...

You're sure it doesn't hurt any more?

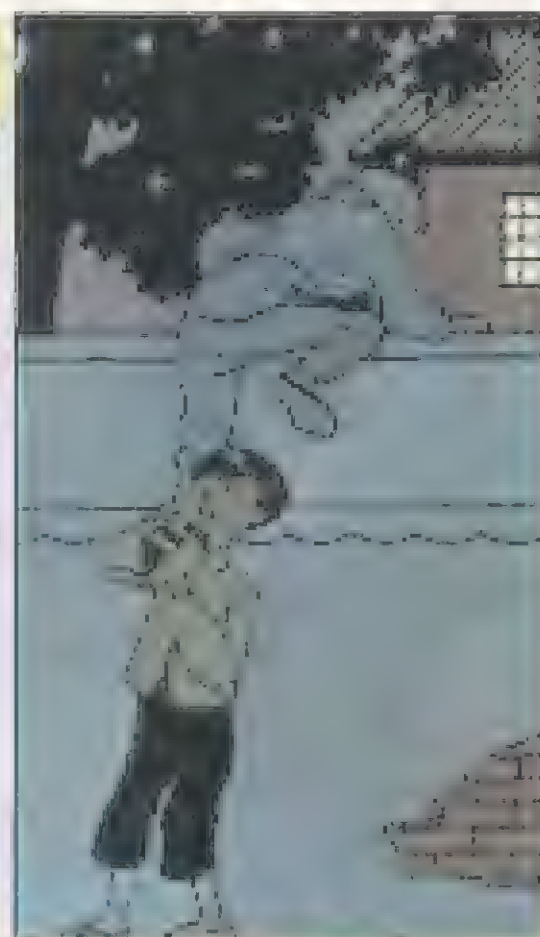
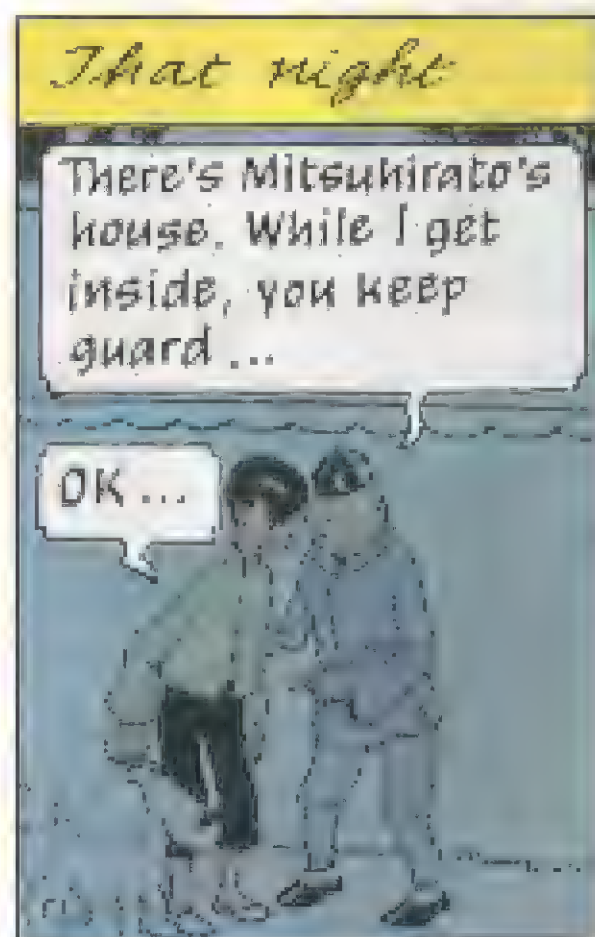
Not a bit, Chang... Look, all back to normal...



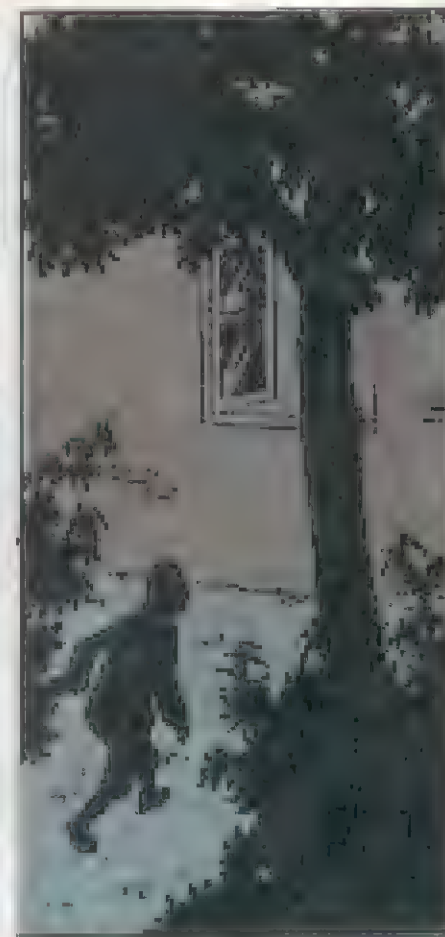
That night

There's Mitsuhiroto's house. While I get inside, you keep guard...

OK...

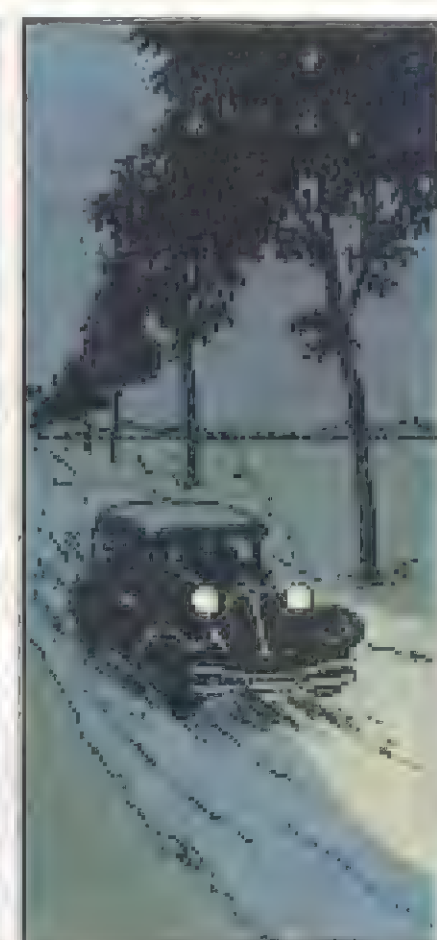
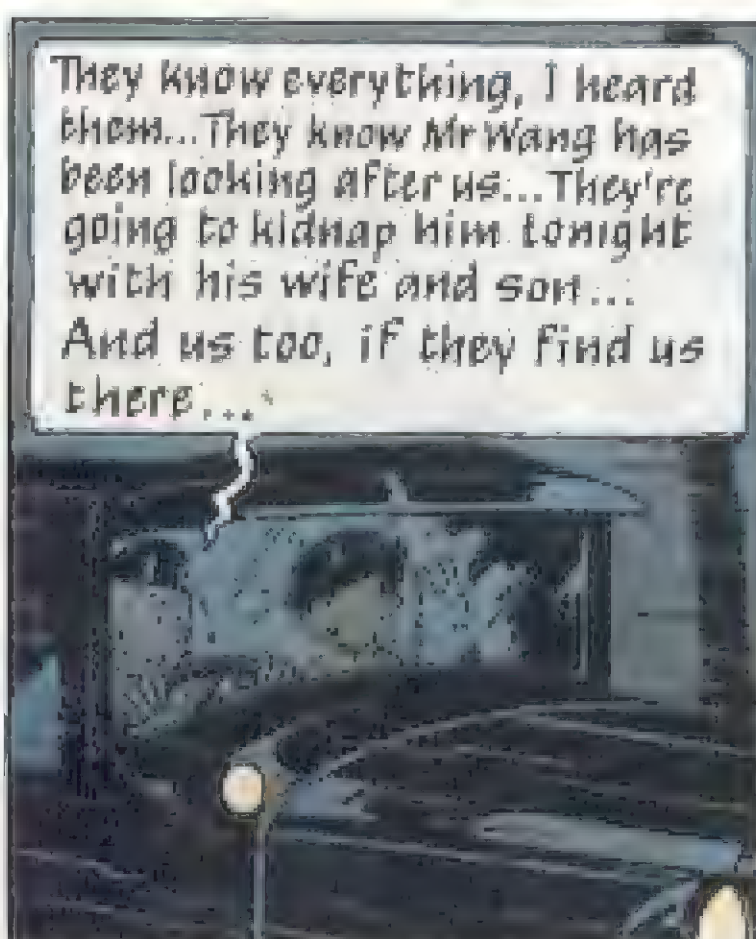
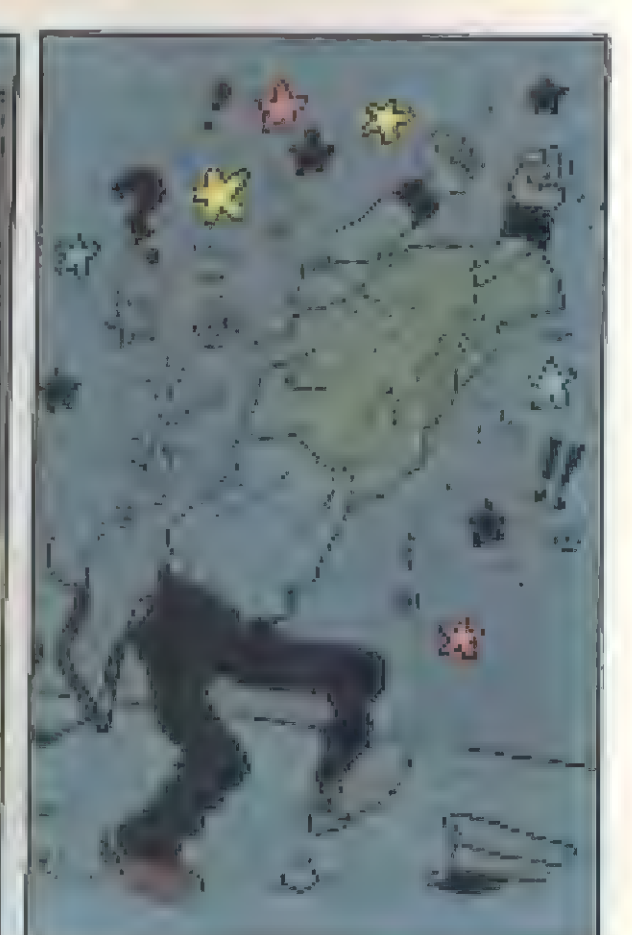
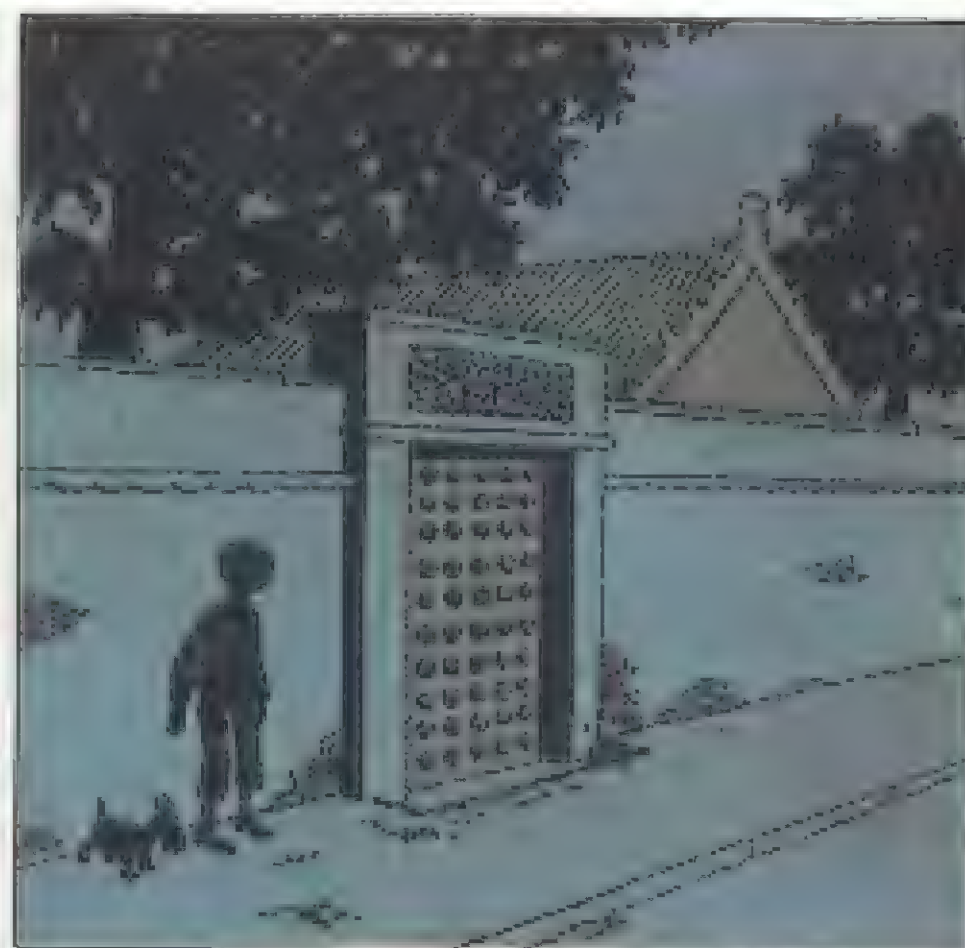


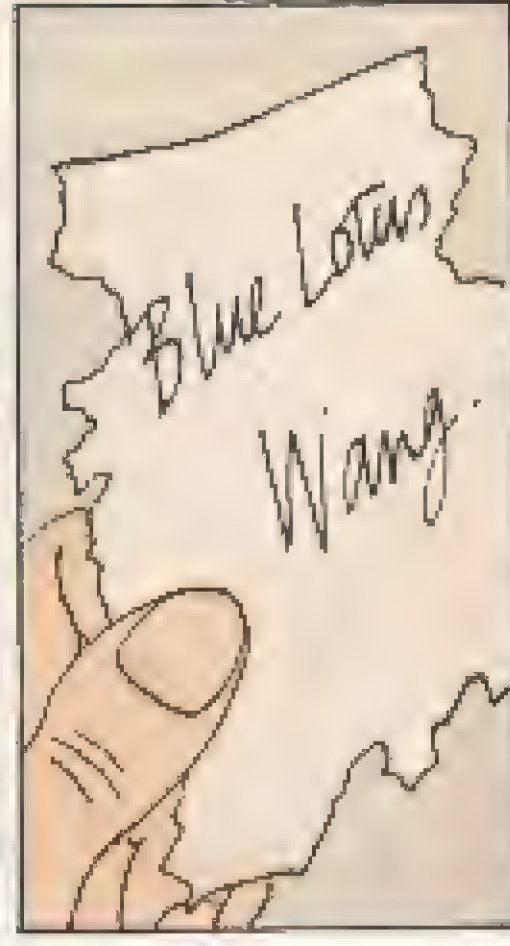
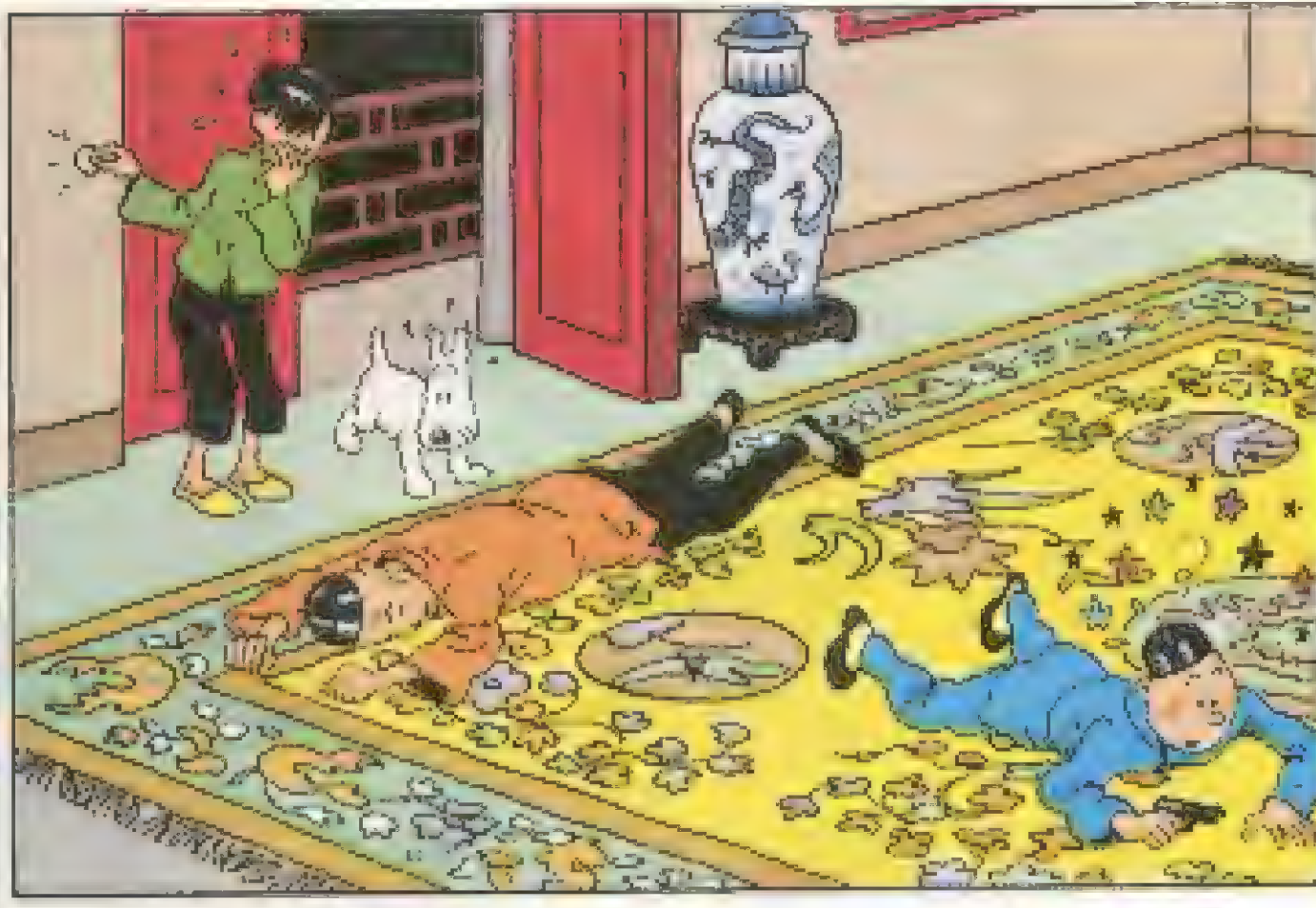
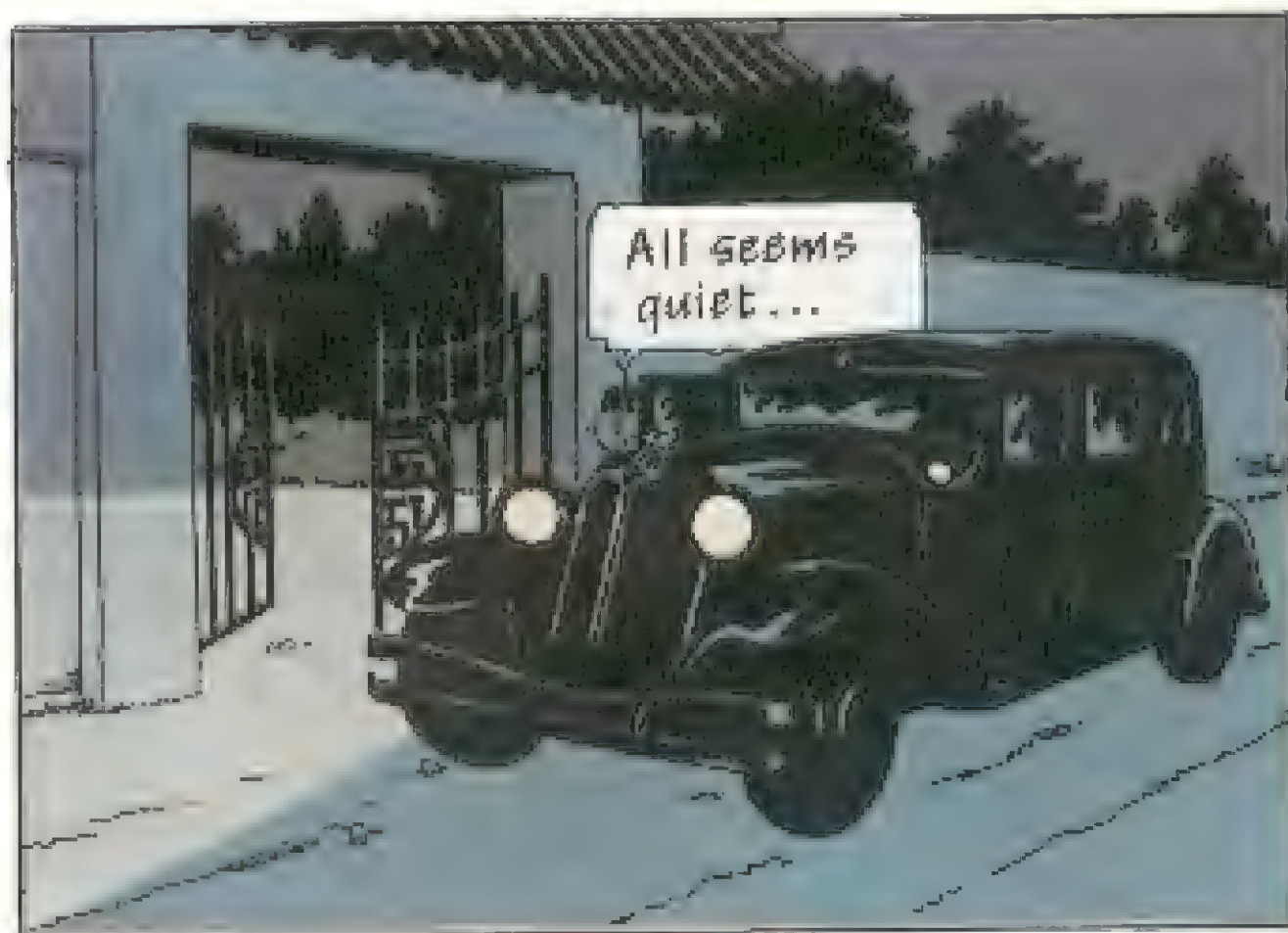
No one!... So far so good...

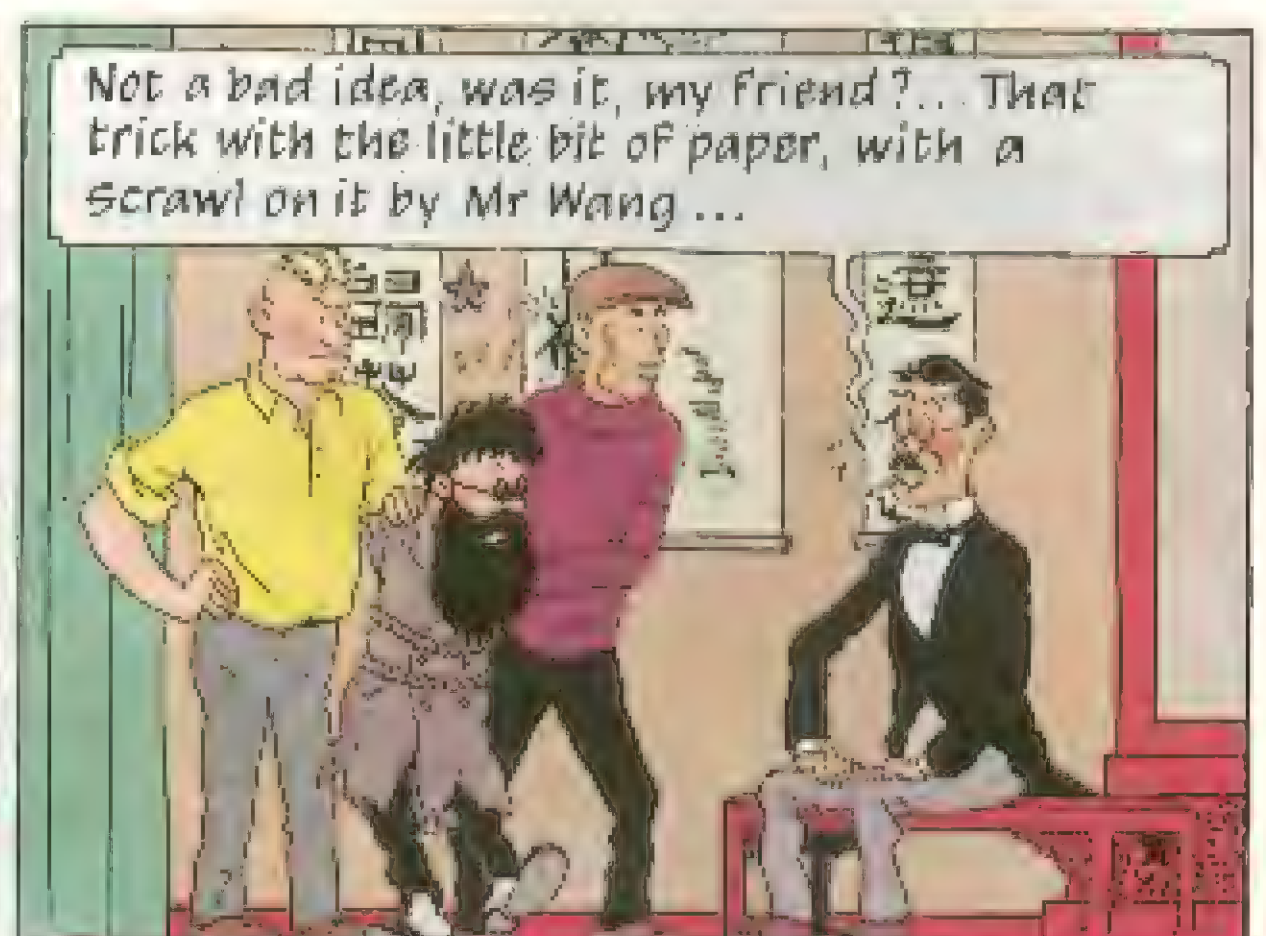
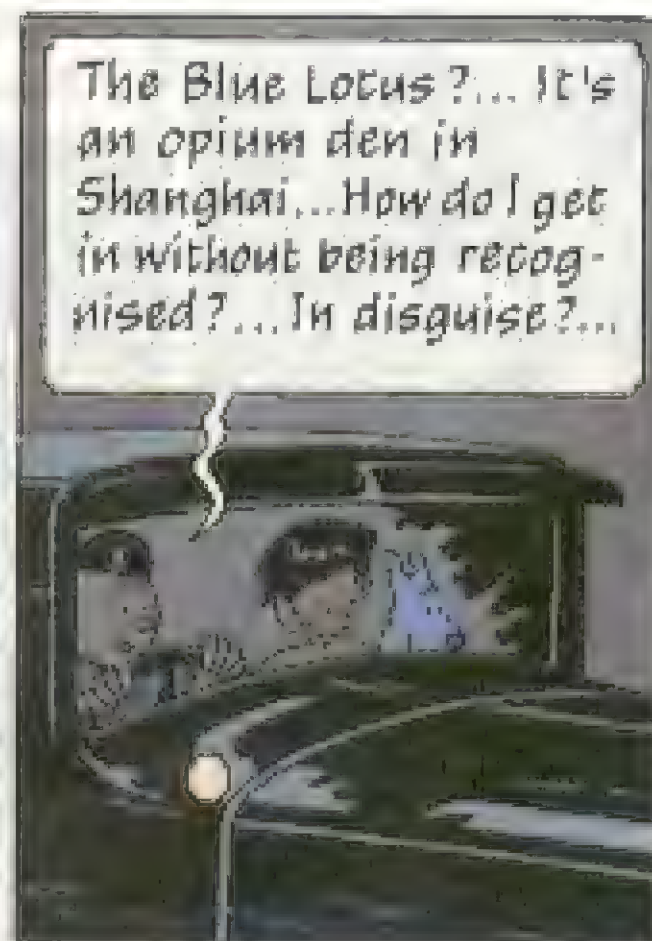


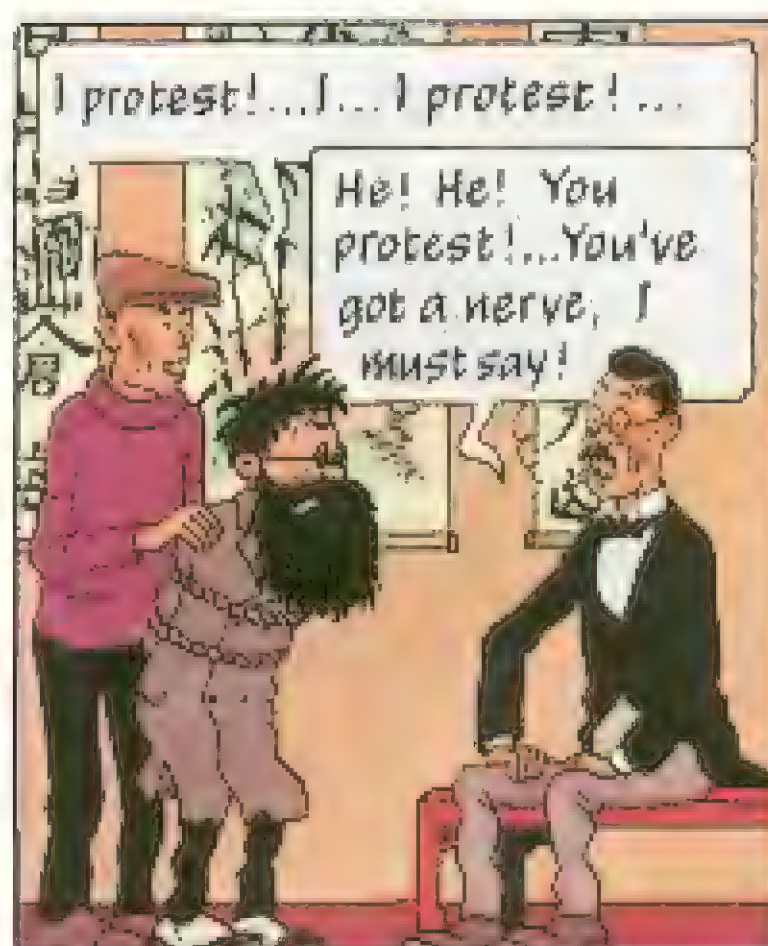
You're sure Tintin is there right now?...

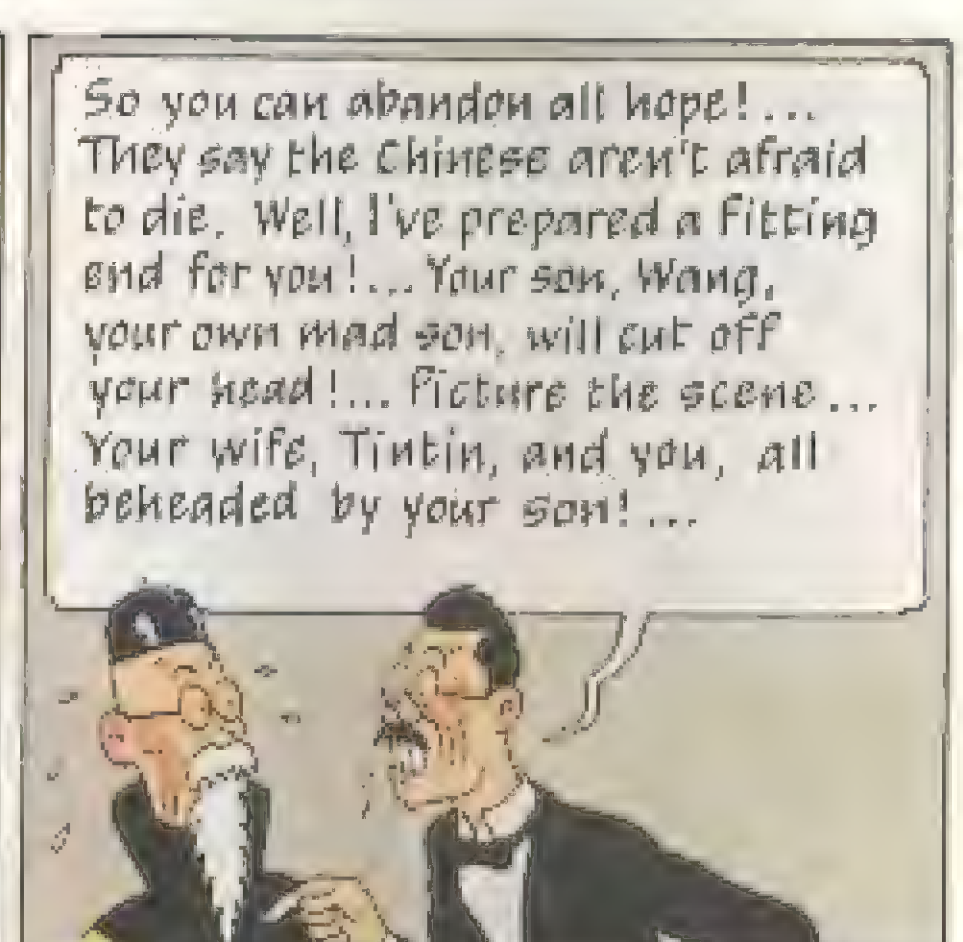
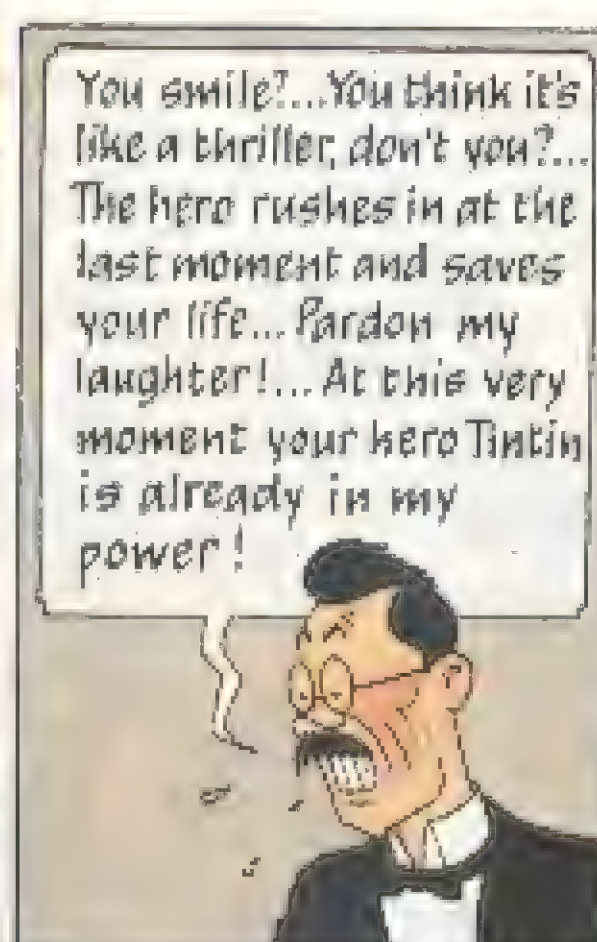
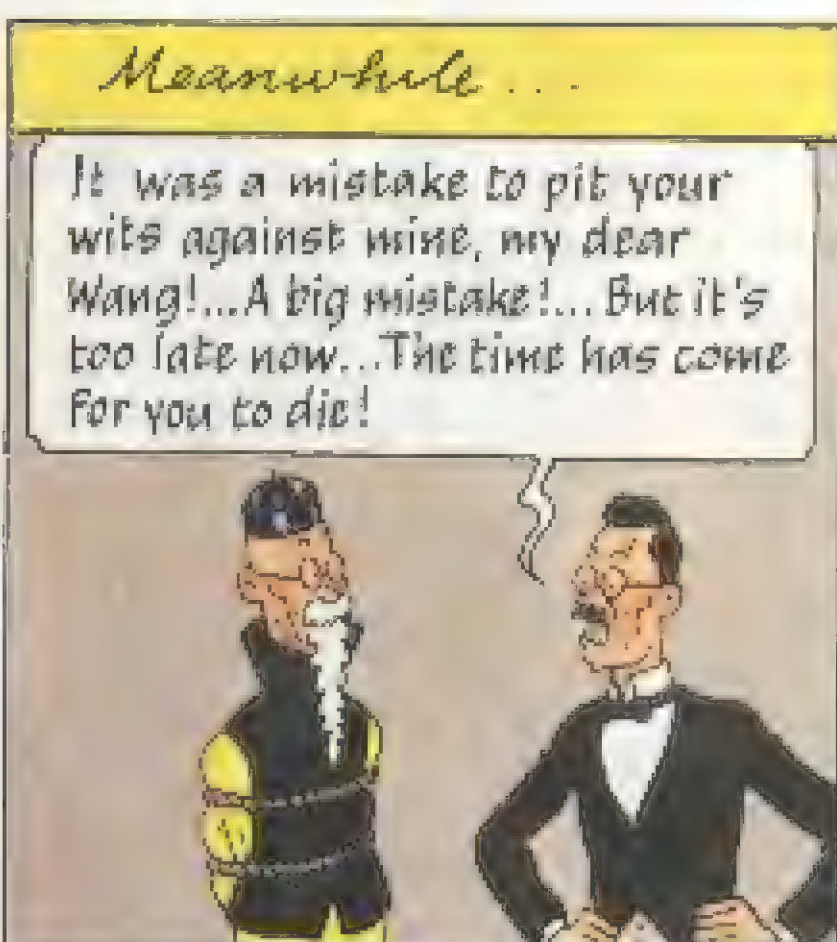
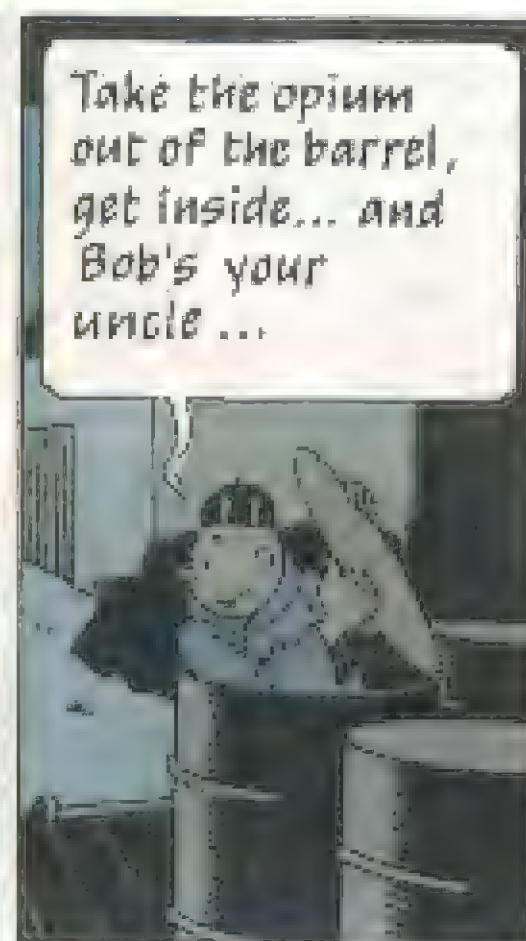
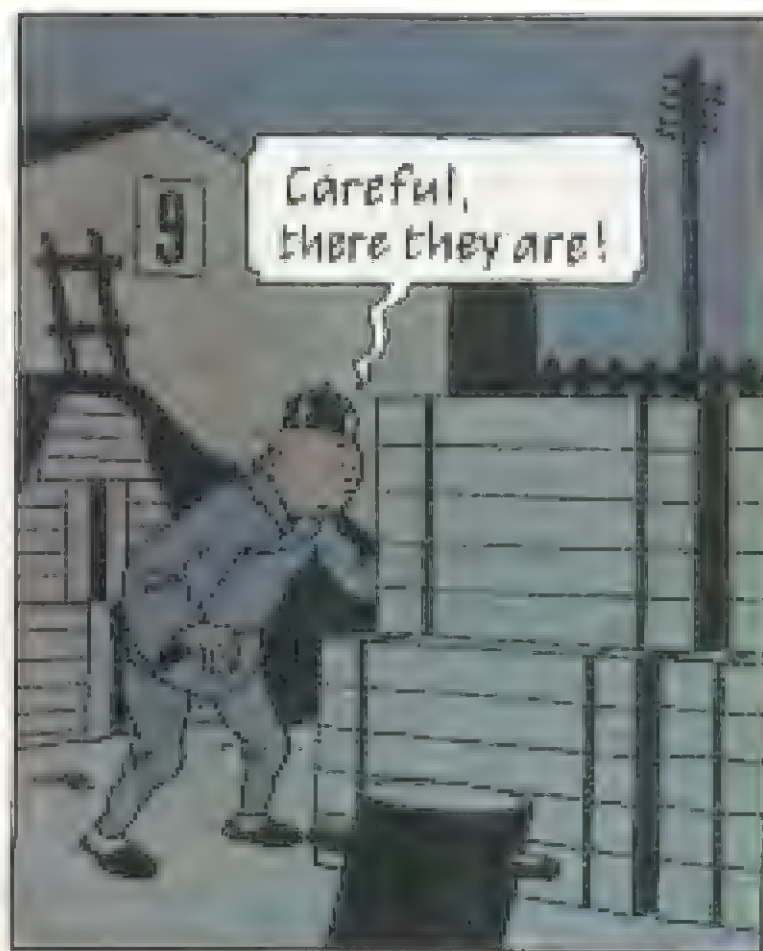








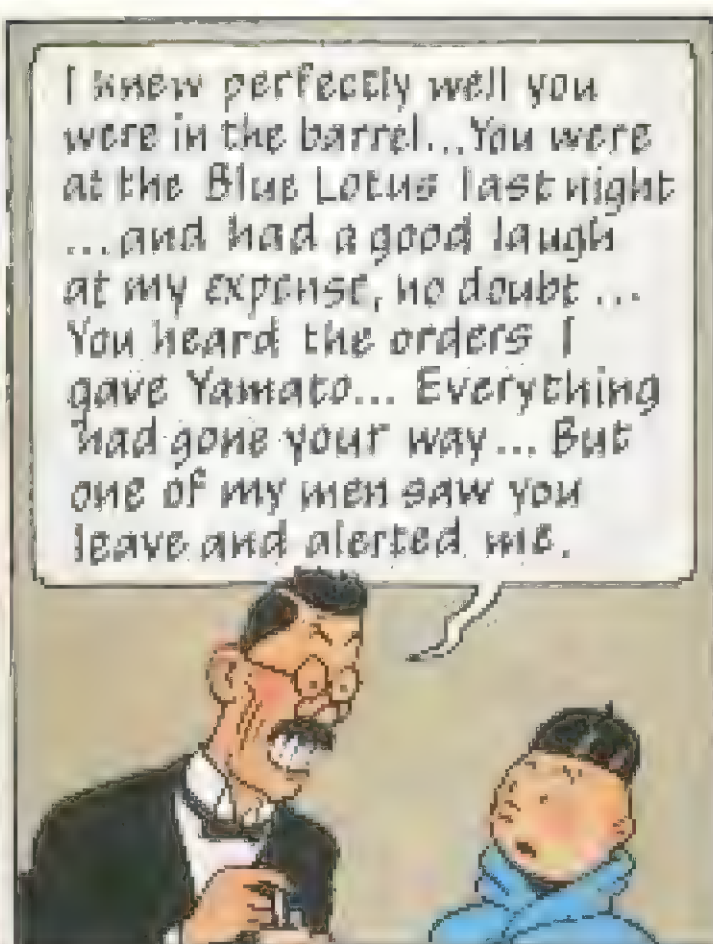






Something tells me you weren't expecting this sort of reception when you emerged!

Too true!



I knew perfectly well you were in the barrel... You were at the Blue Lotus last night... and had a good laugh at my expense, no doubt... You heard the orders I gave Yamato... Everything had gone your way... But one of my men saw you leave and alerted me.



I told myself you certainly wouldn't be able to resist such a good opportunity, so I set a trap. I told them to leave you alone, they loosened the top of one barrel, and everything happened as I'd foreseen!

Well done, Mr Mitsuhiroto. You're quite a clever man!



Cleverer than you thought, anyway!... Ah, here's an old friend of yours... He doesn't want to miss your execution!...

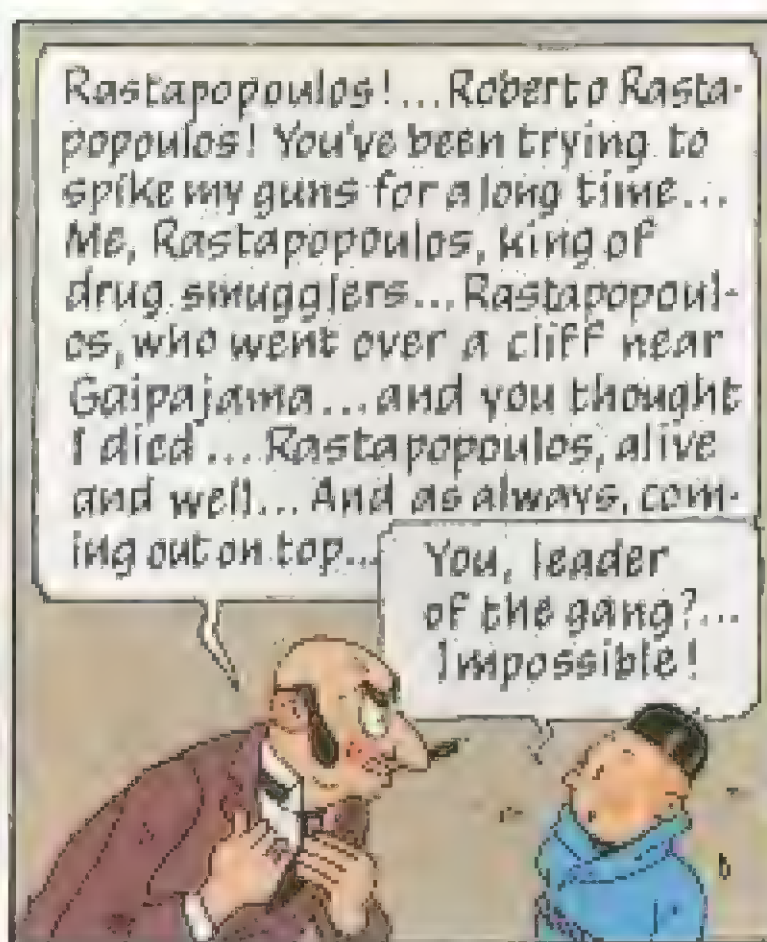
?



We got him, Grand Master.

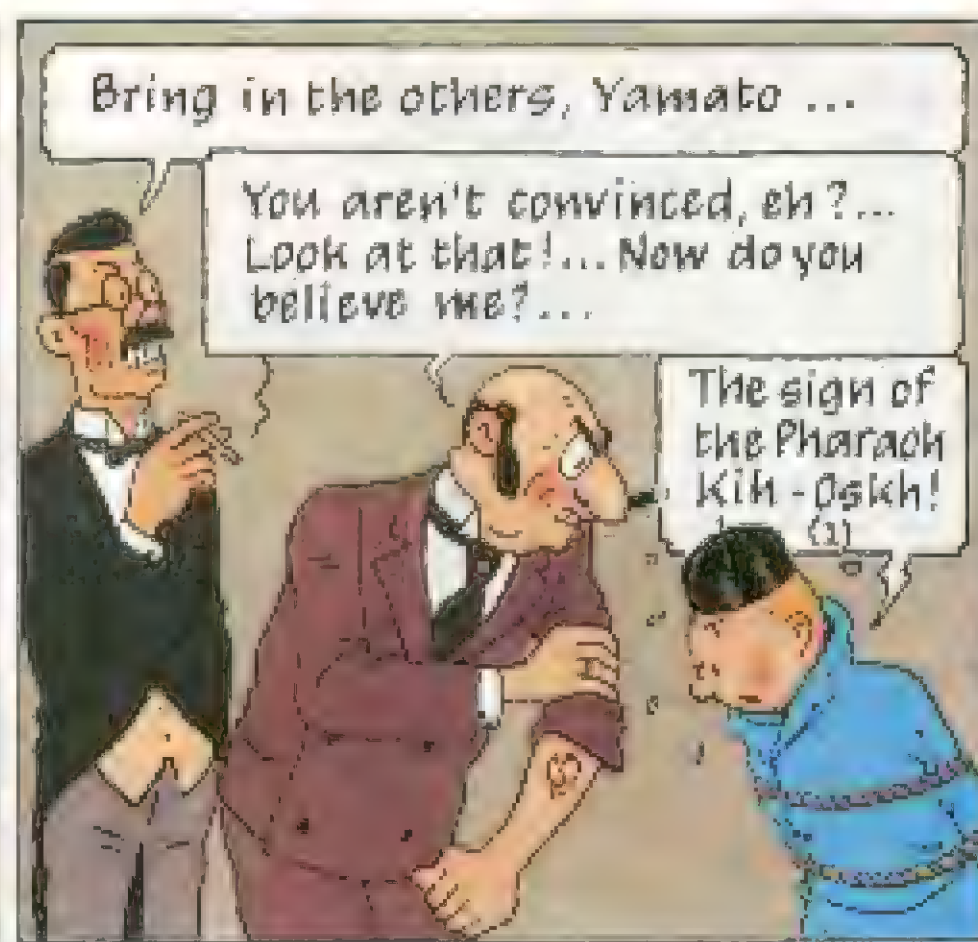
Mr Rastapopoulos!

Exactly!



Rastapopoulos!... Roberto Rastapopoulos! You've been trying to spike my guns for a long time... Me, Rastapopoulos, King of drug smugglers... Rastapopoulos, who went over a cliff near Gaipajama... and you thought I died... Rastapopoulos, alive and well... And as always, coming out on top...

You, leader of the gang?... Impossible!



Bring in the others, Yamato...

You aren't convinced, eh?... Look at that!... Now do you believe me?...

The sign of the Pharaoh Kih-Oskh!

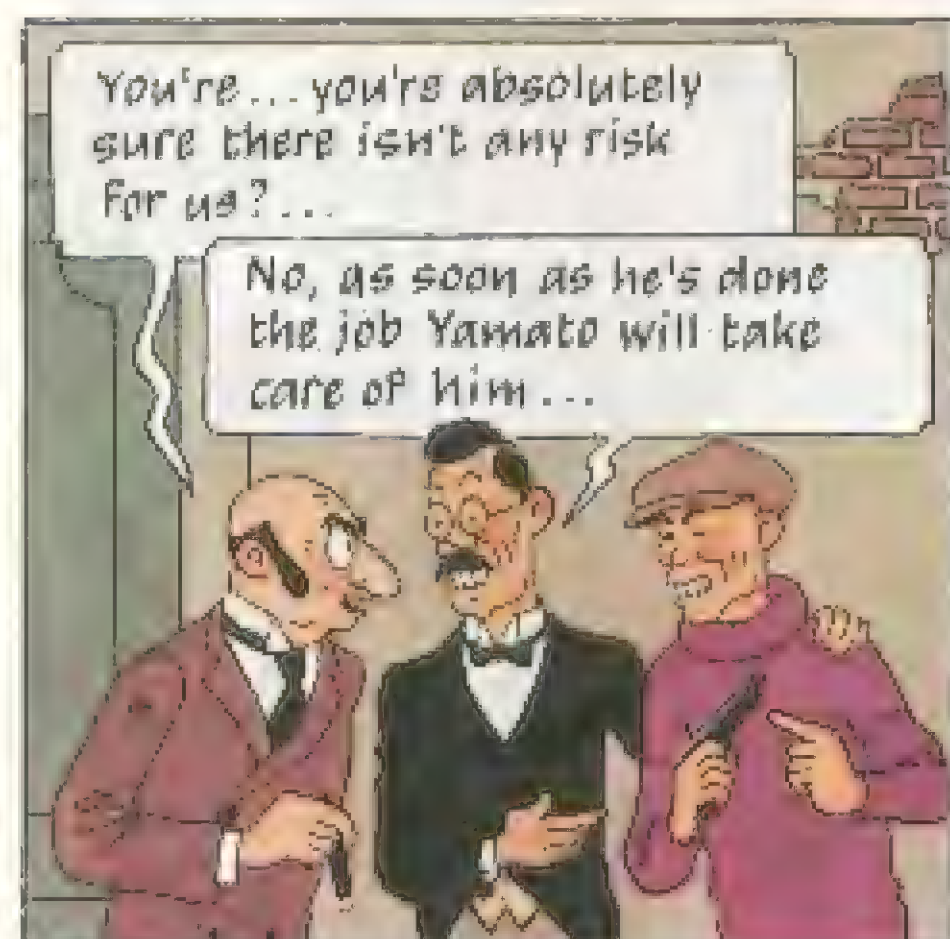
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Here, take this. It's for you...



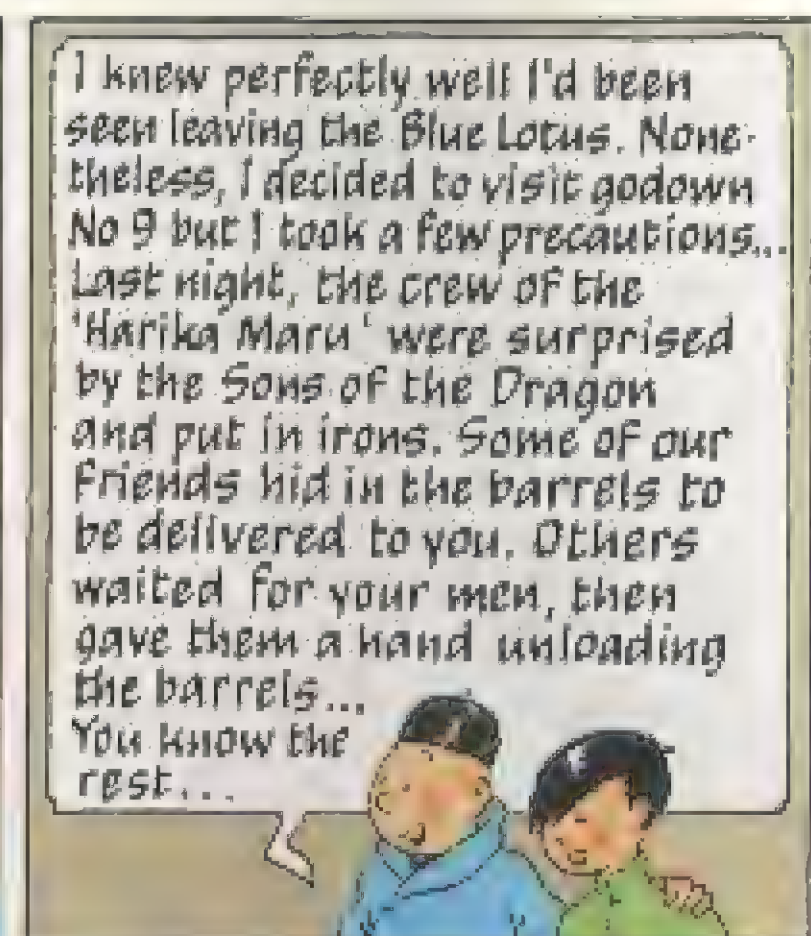
Lao Tzu said: 'You must find the way. ... I've found it... It's quite easy. I'm going to cut off your head. Then you too will know the truth ...'



You're... you're absolutely sure there isn't any risk for us?...

No, as soon as he's done the job Yamato will take care of him...







SHANGHAI NEWS

上海報

FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday:

Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed to us this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts



Professor Fang Hsi-ying pictured just after his release.

to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young European reporter Tintin joined in the hunt for the missing man of science. Earlier we reported incidents involving Tintin and the occupying Japanese forces. Secret society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in

police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police at Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate with their ships on the high seas. Information radioed included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of embarkation and unloading.

Home of Japanese subject Mitsuhirato was also searched. No comment, say police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures.



Tintin, rescuer of Professor Fang Hsi-ying, with Snowy, his faithful companion.

The young reporter is the guest of Mr Wang Chen-ye at his host's picturesque villa on the Nanking road.

When we called, our hero, young and smiling, greeted us wearing Chinese dress. Could this really be the scourge of the terrible Shanghai gangsters?

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

man with an impish smile said:

"You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

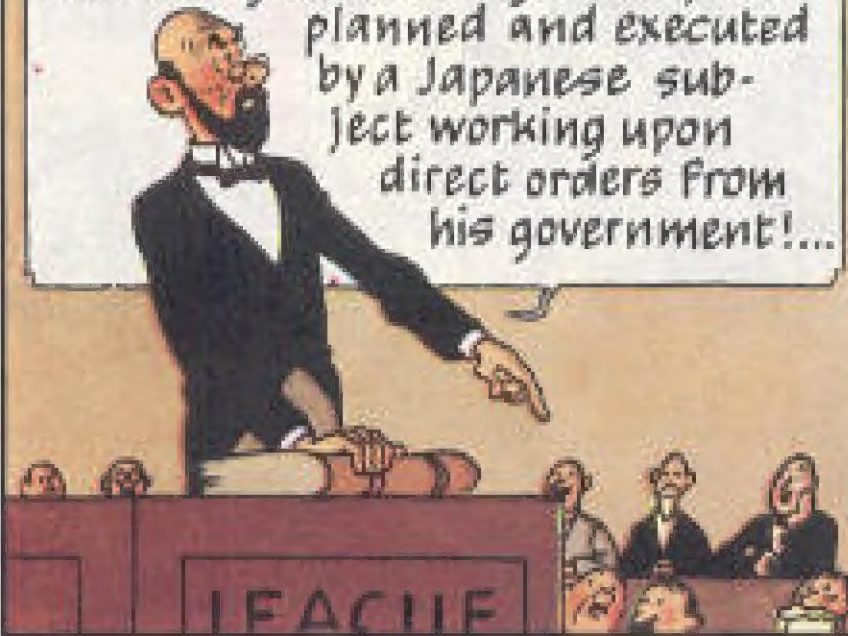
L.G.T.

Young people carry posters of Tintin through Shanghai streets.



The conclusions of the Sub-Committee leave no room for doubt. The documents seized in Shanghai provide irrefutable proof. The attack upon the Shanghai-Nanking railway was

planned and executed by a Japanese subject working upon direct orders from his government!...

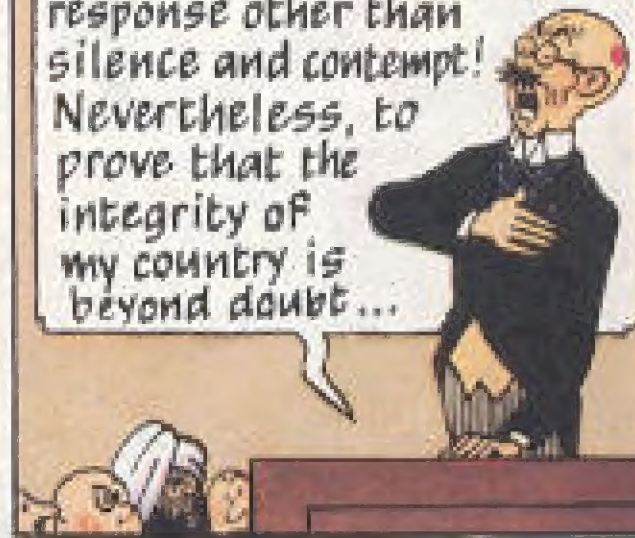


I shall be interested to hear the Japanese delegate's reply...

Me, too... Look, he's going to speak now...



Gentlemen, make no mistake! I categorically deny the accusations contained in the report of the 873rd Sub-Committee. These accusations are an insult to which Japan declines to make any response other than silence and contempt! Nevertheless, to prove that the integrity of my country is beyond doubt...



...I am authorised to announce that my government has ordered its troops to withdraw from Chinese territories occupied after the incident on the Shanghai-Nanking railway. To that, gentlemen, I must add

with regret that in solemn protest against the affront to my country, Japan finds herself obliged to resign from the League of Nations!



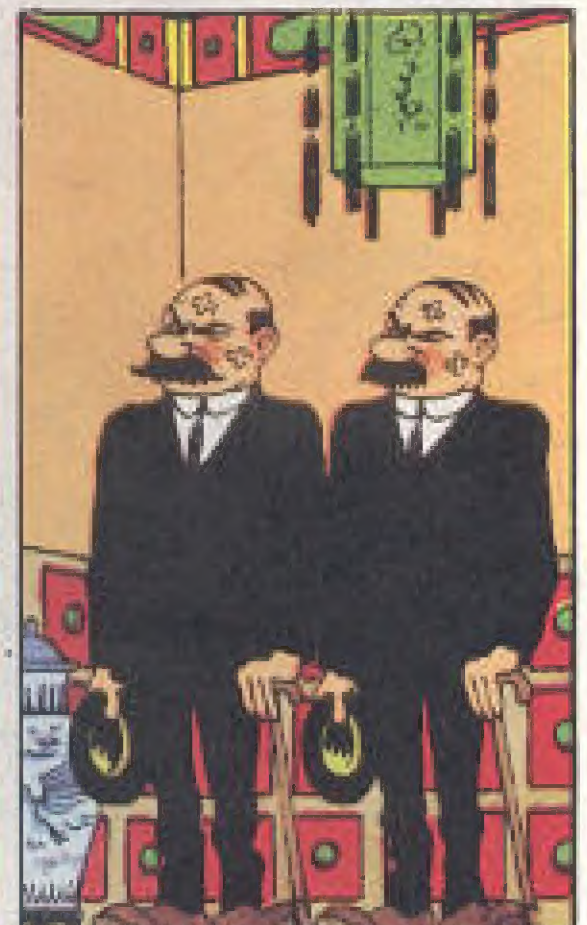
Meanwhile, in Shanghai...

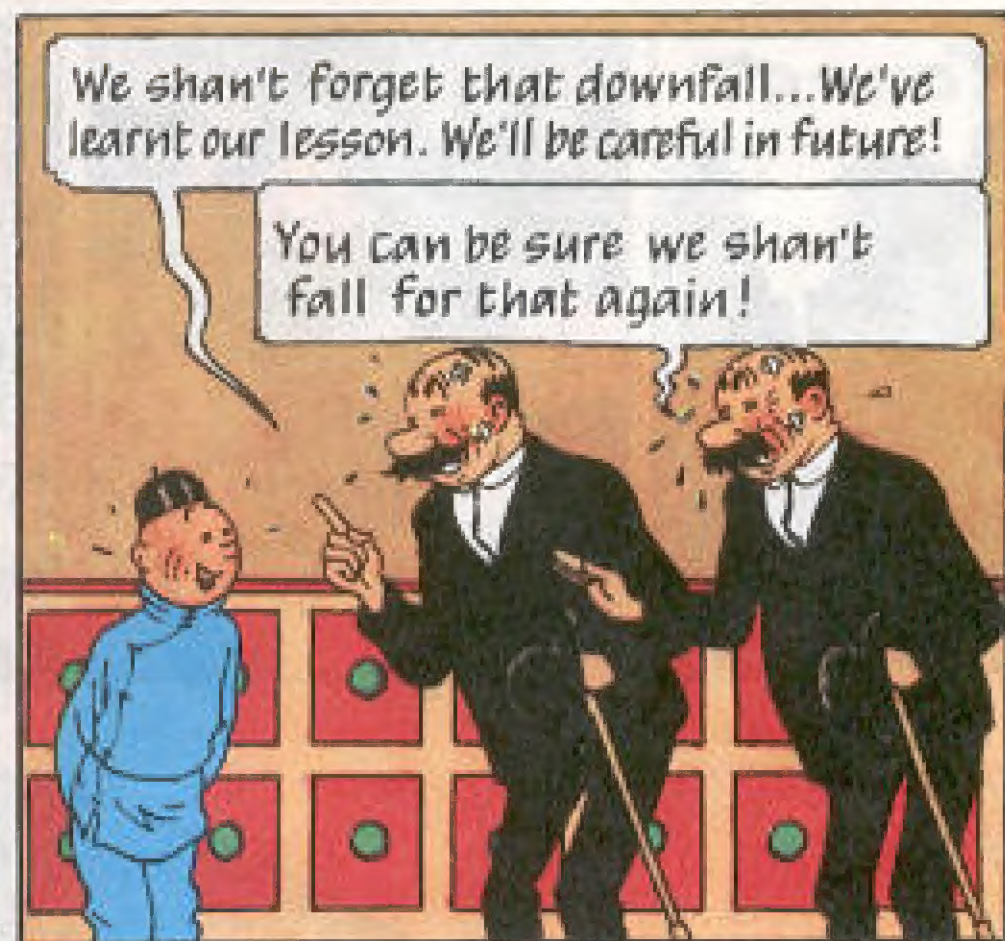
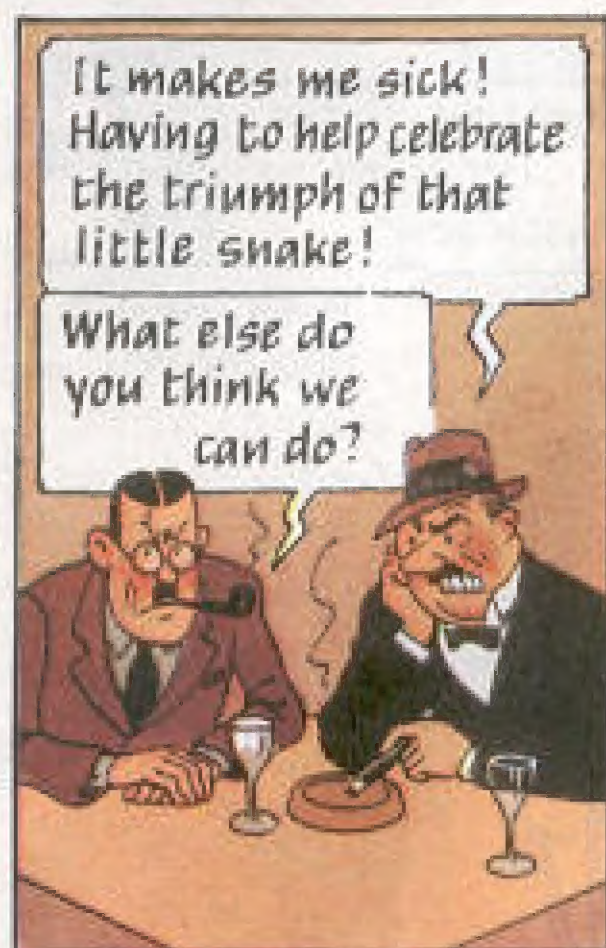
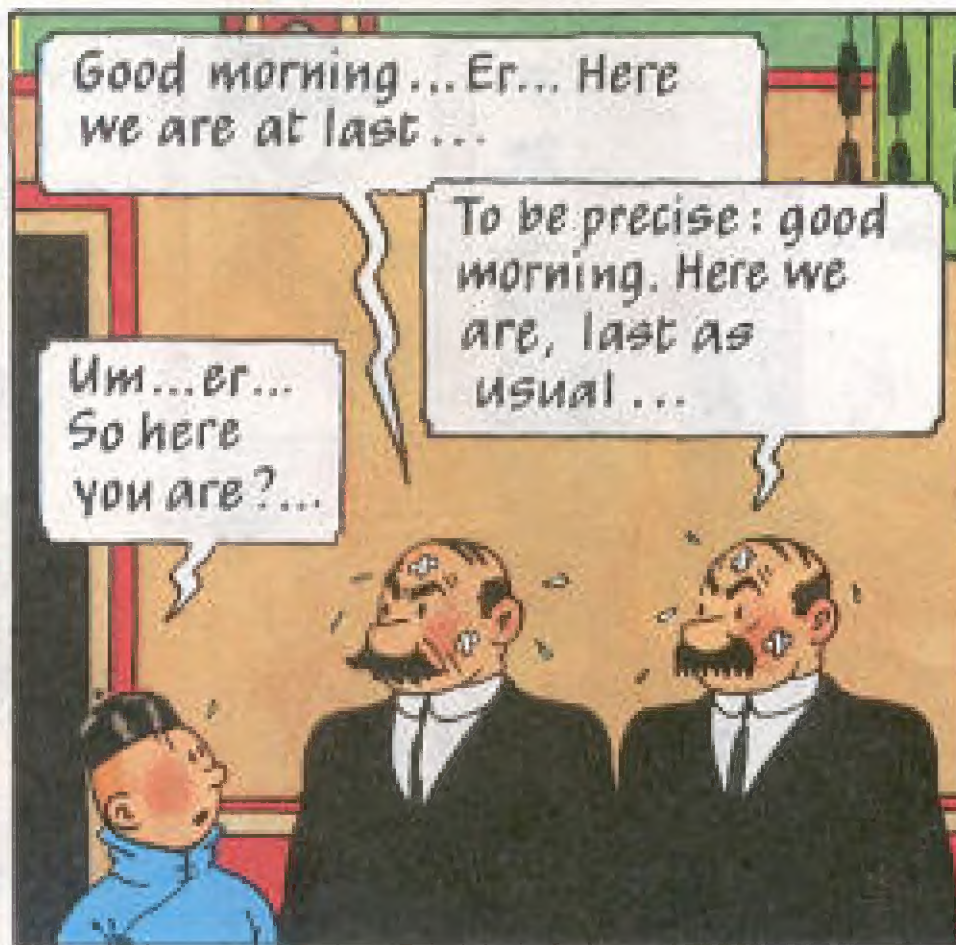
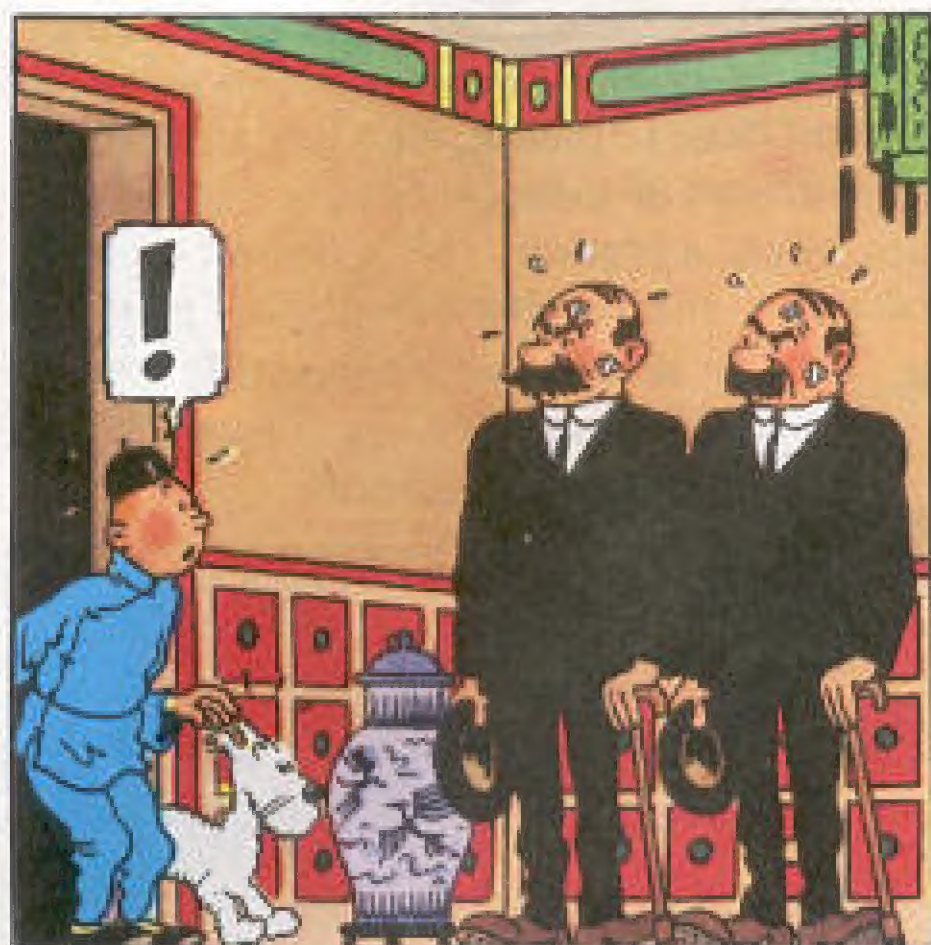
I have wonderful news for you: my son is cured!... Professor Fang Hsi-ying has discovered an antidote to the terrible poison of madness!...

He has?... Oh, how glad I am!



Venerable Master, two gentlemen wish to speak to Mr Tintin.





Some days later...

... I raise my glass to your precious health, Tintin. Your courage and nobility have restored happiness to this humble house. Your memory will be engraved upon our hearts as in finest crystal...



There is one who, if such is possible, will miss you even more than I. Chang, who has already known the sadness of losing his parents. Chang, who found in you a brother. If he wishes, he will be my son, the brother of my own poor son to whom our honourable friend Fang Hsi-ying has restored his reason...



What is the matter, Chang?

There is a rainbow in my heart, Venerable Lady... I weep because Tintin is going but the sunshines because I have a new mother and father!



Farewell, noble Tintin. May other friendships lighten your days in your country in the West, and accompany you along the way!



The next morning...



Goodbye, Tintin... Good luck go with you!

I wish the same for you, Chang!... Goodbye!

